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[18 May]

NATO MILITARY SESSION ENDS; COMMUNIQUE IGNORES SDI

LD230824 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1853 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The session of the NATO Military Planning Committee ended today in Brussels. It took place under the sign of expanding arsenals of conventional weapons, deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons in Western Europe, and modernization and stockpiling of chemical weapons. The defense ministers of the countries of the bloc, with the exception of France, which, as is known, has left NATO's military structure, supported a further increase in military spending. Lord Carrington, NATO secretary general, acknowledged at a final press conference that he insisted on the need to perfect chemical weapons.

It emerges from the session's final communique that a decision was made to continue deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear-weapon missiles on the European Continent. These intentions were condemned by Greece and Denmark.

The communique makes no mention of Washington's "star wars" program. As Weinberger, the Pentagon head, stated at the press conference, the ministers did, however, discuss this question, but the discussion did not bring the Pentagon the desired results. Most of the Western European NATO allies preferred not to hurry to the support of the U.S. program for the militarization of space.

Bogachev on SDI Discussion

LD221806 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev

Despite hopes of the Reagan administration which made a "proposal"-cum-ultimatum to its NATO allies for joining in the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative" [SDI], Western European countries are in no hurry to announce officially their readiness to participate in the United States' military adventures in space.

Moreover, as the deadline of Weinberger's ultimatum draws nearer -- May 26, 1985 -- doubts are growing even among most convinced "Atlantists" concerning military and political expediency of their participation in the U.S. project of developing a large-scale anti-ballistic missile defense based in space. Inspector General of the West German Bundeswehr Wolfgang Altenburg who addressed a session of the Military Committee of the North Atlantic Assembly had to recognize that the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative" posed more questions than it could provide answers to.

Representatives of Western European countries, speaking at the spring session of the military policy-making bodies of NATO in Brussels do not conceal fears that the development of a U.S. space-based anti-ballistic missile defense will seriously destabilize the military and political situation in the world and erode the foundation of the current Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva on preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on earth. A number of observers see a direct connection between U.S. plans for the deployment of an ABM shield over the United States and the Pentagon's concept of a "limited" nuclear warfare in Europe. They note that Washington is still striving for such a situation whereby it would be Europeans, first and foremost, who would have to pay for the consequences of a destabilization of the situation in the world.

And really, if earlier the United States hoped -- without sufficient grounds to do so -- for a relative impunity of aggression because its own territory is far from the potential theaters of operations, now, according to its plans, the "acceptability of a limited nuclear war" in the European Continent should be supplemented by a large-scale anti-ballistic missile defense over the entire territory of the potential aggressor.

Despite strong pressure exerted by Washington, not a single Western European NATO country has thus far announced officially its consent to participate in the American plans for outer space militarization. At the same time France, Denmark and Norway have already declared their refusal to accept Weinberger's ultimatum concerning participation in President Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative".

Under such circumstances, trying to speed up the events, Washington officials resort to unseemly tricks. For instance, after a meeting between U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger and Alfred Vreven, minister of national defense of Belgium, a spokesman for the Pentagon publicly announced that Belgium had allegedly decided to participate in the "Strategic Defense Initiative". The Belgian minister, however, had to deny the Pentagon's "story" and said that "some people took their dreams for reality".

At their session in Brussels defense ministers of Western European NATO countries discussed the question of how to react to the U.S. invitation to join into the "star wars" program and arrived at the conclusion that common approaches to that problem could not be worked out at the present time.

U.S. TO FOLLOW 'OBSTRUCTIONIST' PATH IN VIENNA

LD230952 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] A dispatch from Washington shows that the United States intends to continue to adhere to its previous, unconstructive course at the Vienna talks. A written statement by a White House spokesman, published following President Reagan's meeting with Blackwill, new head of the American delegation to the Vienna talks, testifies to this. Counseling his new envoy prior to his departure, the President gave him unequivocal instructions to continue to block any and all initiatives emanating from the Warsaw Pact organization member-states. One can only regret the fact that the U.S. Administration dooms the next round of the talks in the Hofburg Palace in Vienna, due to start today, to what will, in essence, be an outcome without any results.

The same statement also mentions the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons in progress in Geneva. Analysis of this document leaves one with no doubt that at this important forum too the United States will stubbornly continue to refuse to search for compromise solutions and take up an obstructionist position.

CEMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION DISCUSSED

PM221349 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Sergey Baygarov "Commentator's Column": "Intensifying Cooperation"]

[Text] A routine session of the CEMA Executive Committee has been held to discuss topical questions of the socialist community countries' economic policy.

The Executive Committee's work was focused on a discussion of questions connected with the implementation of the decisions of the CEMA countries' economic summit conference and preparation for the council's next session.

One of the main problems which has to be resolved in the next few years is the more rational use of material-technical resources. So far more electricity and raw material are spent per unit of output than in a number of technically developed capitalist states. Obviously, this situation cannot be tolerated. The CEMA Executive Committee session approved the draft program for cooperation in economizing and making rational use of material resources for the period through 2000. A package of measures is aimed at the broad introduction of energy-saving technologies and equipment, the development of new sources of energy, and the fuller involvement of secondary raw material in the economic process. There are enormous reserves here. Specialists have calculated that up to 30 percent of the steel now expended could be saved. This is a substantial addition! A reduction of just 1 percent in the consumption of electricity at the CEMA countries' industrial enterprises would provide a saving of 1.4 million kilowatt hours. That is equal to the generation of nearly four Volkhov GES's.

It is essential to continue to enhance the effectiveness of the entire mechanism of cooperation. The development of direct ties between individual enterprises is promising in this respect. However, restricting these ties merely to reciprocal familiarization means living in the past. What is needed today is the joint development of scientific-technical problems and the rapid use of the results obtained, the search for new and effective relations between enterprises, and direct ties in which tens of thousands of the fraternal countries' workers take part lead to the consolidation of long-term production sharing between cooperating enterprises.

The present Executive Committee session was held in victorious May. In a festive atmosphere, its participants celebrated the 40th anniversary of the great victory over Hitler's fascism, to which the Soviet Union made the decisive contribution. CEMA's activity benefits the further consolidation of mutual economic cooperation, the fraternal countries' all-around progress, and the normalization of international relations.

CEMA COOPERATIVE OFFICIALS HOLD CONFERENCE

LD221510 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1100 GMT on 22 May carries a report on a conference of chairmen of central cooperative unions and councils of CEMA member-countries which is being held in Moscow today. Aleksandr Ivanovich Krasheninnikov, member of the Tsentrosoyuz board and head of its foreign relations department, comments on Tsentrosoyuz' links with foreign countries.

He says a major outcome of many years of this cooperation under the regular conference of chairmen of cooperative unions and councils of the CEMA countries is the long-term program of cooperation up to 1990, the aim of which is to raise the effectiveness of use of the material base of cooperatives, their manpower and finances, to improve working conditions for cooperative workers, to increase commodity resources, and to promote foreign trade.

Krasheninnikov says the conference will discuss questions of the planning of social development of collectives, measures for the rational use of manpower, and raising the productivity of labor while maintaining a high quality of services. Joint work is being examined on the subject of the department store of the future.

On a bilateral basis, there is an exchange of front-ranking experience in cooperative building. There is an exchange of experts, blueprints, and joint work on fitting out enterprises with modern plants. The socialist countries' cooperatives are focusing on electronic data processing, training, improved self-service, socialist competition, and innovation.

On the subject of collaboration with the International Cooperative Alliance, which has over 500 million members from 70 countries, Krasheninnikov says: "For many years the cooperative organizations of socialist countries have persistently and consistently pursued in the International Cooperative Alliance a line of promoting democratization of the alliance, its active recruitment to the peace movement, detente and disarmament, stepping up the antimonopoly direction of its operations, and expansion and raising of the role of the cooperative movement in liberated countries."

He goes on to say that the proportion of socialist countries in Tsentrosoyuz' overall foreign trade is 54 percent. Tsentrosoyuz' supplies socialist countries with jam, conserves, mushrooms, honey, medicinal raw material, toys, souvenirs, and consumer goods. From the fraternal socialist countries, it imports footwear, textiles, knitwear, leather fancy goods, curtains, fur coats, porcelain, glass, furniture, and foodstuffs. Each year Tsentrosoyuz receives up to 100 students from socialist countries for training.

PROMYSLOV SPEAKS AT TOKYO MAYORS CONFERENCE

LD211323 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 21 May 85

[Text] Tokyo May 21 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Anichkin reports: The arms race, international tension negatively affect the state of affairs in the biggest cities of the world. Therefore the future of our cities, our children and grandchildren depends on our efforts aimed at preservation of peace, at prevention of a nuclear catastrophe and at peaceful solution of international problems. This was stated at an international conference of mayors of the biggest cities by Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Soviet Vladimir Promyslov. He said that the Muscovites, just as all the Soviet people, who experienced the horrors of war, highly appreciate and share the peaceful aspirations of the people of Japan -- the country which experienced the tragedy of atomic bombings. The chairman of the Moscow City Soviet Executive Committee dwelt on the course of implementation of the master plan of development and reconstruction of Moscow, the high pace of housing construction.

Vienna Mayor Helmut Zilk noted that the capital of Austria, just as most of other cities in the West, has to cope with problems of unemployment, preservation of cultural monuments. In the report of the New Delhi Mayor Mohinder Singh Sathi it was stressed that the city authorities on the basis of the master plan of the city development were striving to resolve the problems of its overpopulation, shortage of housing, improvement of water and food supplies for the citizens. Mexico City Mayor Ramon Aguirre said that Mexico City, the biggest city in the world for its population, faces the acute demographic problem, and also the problem of providing the poorest strata of the population with jobs. At the conference it was proposed to form a working group to generalize the results of the discussion of problems of a contemporary city and to help elaborate joint ways for the solution of these problems.

Conference Concludes

LD220750 Moscow TASS in English 0720 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Tokyo May 22 TASS -- The first ever conference of mayors of the world's largest cities from 19 countries, including Moscow, Paris, New Delhi, Beijing, New York, Mexico City and Jakarta, ended in Tokyo today. To ensure security and happiness for the people of our cities, it is necessary to maintain peace based on justice throughout the world, says the "Tokyo delcaration" adopted on the final day of the conference. Exchanges of experience in tackling municipal problems and broad contacts in science and technology will help improve living standards in cities and promote mutual understanding and friendship among peoples of different countries and continents, the mayors who met in the Japanese capital pointed out.

AUCCTU SECRETARY ADDRESSES TU CONFERENCE

PM211443 Moscow TRUD in Russian 15 May 85 p 3

[Special correspondent R. Kolchanov dispatch: "Trade Unions on a Peace March. The 26th Working Conference of Baltic Countries, Norway, and Iceland Has Opened in Denmark"]

[Excerpts] Gilleleje, 17 May -- Some 300 delegates representing the trade unions of nine countries have gathered in the city of Gilleleje, an hour's journey from the Danish capital, for a conference devoted to the topic "The Trade Unions' Joint Struggle To Avert a Nuclear Catastrophe, and for Peace, Disarmament, and Social Progress."

K. Yu. Matskyavichyus, AUCCTU secretary and leader of the Soviet trade union delegation, took the floor. Assessing the international situation, he emphasized that in the present conditions the only sensible way out of the situation which has developed is the conclusion of an accord between the opposing forces on stopping the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, without delay on earth and preventing it in space.

An indication of the Soviet Union's goodwill, of its sincere desire to achieve tangible positive results at the Geneva talks, are our country's new peace initiatives. They were set forth by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his interview to a PRAVDA correspondent and in his report to the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum.

Recent years, which have been marked by an exacerbation of the international situation and an intensification of the nuclear threat, have engendered new forms of the antiwar movement in Europe, the AUCCTU secretary said. These forms include the establishment of peace action groups at enterprises, work stoppages in protest against the arms race, and action weeks in defense of peace.

The Soviet trade unions regard the struggle for peace as one of their main tasks. This work has been especially stepped up now when our people, together with all progressive mankind, have solemnly marked the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitlerite fascism.

This anniversary unites the overwhelming majority of the world's population in the desire to eliminate war as a means of settling disputes. This is what the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers Address "To the Peoples, Parliaments, and Governments of All Countries," issued in connection with the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, calls for.

Naturally, the Soviet trade unions' antiwar actions this year take place against the background of this memorable anniversary. These events included the international gathering "Forty Years Without War: Prospects for European Cooperation and the Trade Unions"; and the international conference "The Fortieth Anniversary of the Victory Over Fascism and the Trade Unions: Historical Experience, Current Problems, A Glance Into the Future" which was attended by trade union envoys from more than 100 states.

The Soviet trade unions are involving the broad masses of the working people in the defense of peace. Last year some 70 million Soviet people took part in rallies, demonstrations, marches, and vigils in connection with the Day of Trade Union Actions for Peace. Representatives of trade unions from 58 countries also took part in these events.

On 1 September this year too peace vigils at plants and factories, peace lessons at schools and universities, and rallies and demonstrations throughout our country will convincingly demonstrate to mankind that the Soviet people are fully resolved to uphold peace on earth and ensure the right to life.

A substantial factor in strengthening stability in our region and enhancing the security of the peoples of northern Europe is the establishment of a nuclear-free zone here, the leader of the Soviet trade union delegation noted. This idea enjoys the support of millions of Swedes, Danes, Finns, Icelanders, and Norwegians.

The Soviet Union has declared on several occasions that it would never use nuclear weapons against states that refrain from the production, acquisition, and siting of these weapons on their territory.

The USSR has declared its readiness to act as a guarantor of a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe and to examine the question of certain measures, and substantial ones at that, applicable to its own territory adjoining the zone. In the Soviet Union's view, it would also be expedient to discuss with interested parties the question of bestowing nuclear-free status on the Baltic Sea.

The Soviet trade unions fully support this stance. The struggle for the joint implementation of this aim represents a good platform for the further development of cooperation between the working people and trade unions of our countries in the movement for peace and against the arms race.

The speaker then mentioned the Soviet working people's preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress. Social and economic development plans for the 12th 5-Year Plan and through the year 2000 are being actively elaborated. They include provisions for the further enhancement of the people's well-being.

The 26th working conference is taking place in the year of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations and the 10th anniversary of the Helsinki accord. It provides further evidence that various countries' trade unions, irrespective of their persuasions and international alignment, can and must, if they so desire, find a common language. After all, it is a matter of preserving and strengthening peace, averting nuclear war, and curbing the arms race.

The speakers expressed support for the Soviet peace initiatives, denounced U.S. efforts to extend the nuclear arms race to space, and demanded a halt to the siting of Pershing II and cruise missiles on European territory. They devoted a great deal of attention to demands for the establishment of nuclear-free zones in both northern and central Europe. Participants in the conference spoke about the successes of the antiwar movement in which the trade unions play an active part. Trade unions, regardless of their orientation, must mount joint coordinated actions for the sake of peace and social progress, the speakers emphasized.

VARNA CONFERENCE OF CUSTOMS OFFICIALS ENDS

PM211041 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Bulgaria: Concerting Efforts"]

[Text] Sofia, 18 May -- An international conference for customs services engaged in combating smuggling, organized on Bulgaria's initiative, has completed its work in Varna. Representatives of almost 50 countries, as well as international organizations and specialized UN bodies, took part.

Specialists of national customs services exchanged information on the latest methods and technical means of detecting contraband, particularly narcotics. It was resolved to hold seminars for customs service specialists in the various regions of the world through which the main drug trafficking routes run and to expand cooperation in that sphere. In their speeches, conference participants stressed that the very fact that the conference was being held in Bulgaria was a recognition of Bulgarian customs officers' substantial contribution to combating smuggling, particularly narcotics smuggling. They have seized more than 16 metric tons of narcotics in the last 10 years.

U.S. TO USE 2D GENERATION SHUTTLE AS 'SPACE SWORD'

LD222125 Moscow TASS in English 1953 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- TASS commentator Aleksey Popov writes:

Reports about the Pentagon's preparation for the militarisation of outer space are coming off teleprinters one after another. These reports refute Washington's propaganda allegations that the programme of "star wars" advanced by the administration has purely "defensive" character and that its implementation will lead to almost the elimination of nuclear weapons.

As FRANCE PRESSE reported, the Pentagon is now developing a spacecraft "shuttle" of the second generation, a lighter and more manoeuverable spacecraft. It is intended to implement the research conducted in the framework of the Advanced Military Spaceflight Capability (AMSC) programme of the Airforce of the USA, the programme which envisages the creation of spacecraft to different classes for military purposes by late 90s. These spacecraft include the shuttle of the second generation which, according to the foreign press, has already been labeled "TAV" in a preliminary way.

It is intended to use it, no more or less, for dealing strikes (including nuclear ones) from space on strategic targets on the ground and for conducting hostilities in space. Also for conducting strategic reconnaissance, for ensuring control of armed forces and for testing the latest space arms (laser, beam, etc.).

It is apparent that shuttles of the second generation now developed in the United States will be strike space arms. And while the shuttle spacecraft now operating in the framework of the NASA programme, a third of whose launchings up to 1989 have already been reserved by the U.S. Airforce, are planned to be used in the construction of a large-scale space-based ABM system, shuttles of the new generation will be playing a different role in the plans of those who advanced the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative." They are designed, alongside the latest armaments on the ground, for dealing the first nuclear strike. Under the plans of the Washington strategists, the plans which, frankly speaking, are illusory, a large-scale ABM system must enable the United States to avoid retaliation for the strike. So, while the Pentagon plans to create a "space shield," with the use of the existing shuttle spacecraft, it is striving to use shuttles of the second generation as a "space sword."

SENATE APPROVES CHEMICAL WEAPONS FUNDING FOR 1986

LD230710 Moscow TASS in English 0611 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Washington May 23 TASS -- The U.S. Senate approved on Wednesday the administration's request for allocating, under the military budget for the 1986 fiscal year, about 163 million dollars for the production of nerve toxic agents. These funds are to be used to build facilities for the production of binary ammunition at the chemical complex in Pine Bluff (Arkansas State).

Already at this state the United States has the world's biggest chemical arsenals. Experts estimate its chemical weapon stockpiles at over 150,000 tons and the number of chemical ammunition at over 3 million units.

U.S. FIXING WW II SHIPS TO BOOST NAVAL PRESENCE

LD230909 Moscow TASS in English 0706 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Washington May 23 TASS -- The U.S. Senate has voted for allocating 53.5 million dollars to the Pentagon in the next fiscal year to take the battleship Wisconsin "out of the mothballs" and prepare it for active service again.

The Wisconsin is among the four U.S. World War II battleships which have now been given a new lease on life by the American military. The Iowa and the New Jersey, fitted out with modern equipment and arms, including cruise missiles, are already plying the waters in the world's oceans, and the Missouri is to join the Navy next year, to be followed by the Wisconsin two years after that. The program for rehabilitating the World War II battleships is part of the U.S. Administration's plans to boost American naval presence on the high seas.

NEW U.S. COMMUNICATION CENTER ON OKINAWA NOTED

LD230904 Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Tokyo May 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Zatsepin reports:

A new strategic communications centre for the direction of the U.S. Armed Forces in the event of nuclear war, has been commissioned on the Japanese Island of Okinawa.

As Kamejiro Senaga, vice-chairman of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan, said in the foreign affairs committee of the lower house of parliament, this centre has been built at the American Air Base Kadena. Its function is to maintain communications within the "strategic triad" of the U.S. Armed Forces -- intercontinental ballistic missiles, strategic bombers and nuclear submarines.

The strategic communication centre in Okinawa is not the only American military installation of this kind in Japan, built by way of preparation for nuclear war. At the Misawa base in the north of Honshu Island), there is a central command point for directing combat actions during a "full-scale war" involving the use of nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons in the north-west Pacific. The first group of F-16 fighter-bombers, intended for making nuclear strikes, was moved to this base early in April.

American troops direction and communications centres are located in the area of Tokyo and the neighbouring prefectures of Kanagawa and Saitama.

As the newspaper AKAHATA says, the Japanese isles are being turned into a U.S. nuclear place d'armes literally before one's eyes. Beginning with the end of last year Japanese ports are visited, practically on a regular basis, by ships of the Seventh American Fleet with Tomahawk cruise missiles on board. 155-mm howitzers capable of firing nuclear shells are installed in Okinawa, at the Sagamihara base and near Tokyo.

K. Senaga said in his statement in Parliament that the use of Japanese territory in U.S. nuclear plans creates quite a real danger to Japan as it may find itself involved in a full-scale nuclear war. Speaking the sentiments of peace-minded people in Japan, he demanded an immediate removal of all American bases from Japanese soil.

CIA ACCUSED OF TERRORISM IN BEIRUT BOMBING

PM211329 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kapralov article. "The CIA -- Murderer of Civilians"]

[Text] As IZVESTIYA has already reported, 80 people were killed and 200 wounded by a car bomb that exploded in a Beirut suburb on 8 March.

The terrorist act was mounted against a particular individual, who, incidentally, escaped injured. However, the blood of dozens of others was shed.

The murderer went into hiding, but now, 2 months later, the culprit has been found. He was found thanks to another "bomb" that went off in the American corridors of power. It killed no one, but the terrorist, the real culprit of the tragedy in Beirut, caught the full blast of it. The terrorist turned out to be none other than the U.S. CIA.

Representatives J. Edwards and P. Schroeder have submitted a draft resolution to the House demanding that the CIA director provide Congress with documents on the terrorist act carried out in Lebanon by his department. It would be naive to expect a frank confession from the American specialists in dirty tricks, and the CIA has naturally begun strongly denying its involvement in the Beirut explosion.

However, you cannot keep a bomb quiet. A number of spokesmen in the U.S. Administration and Congress, THE WASHINGTON POST has reported, have bluntly stated that the CIA maintained contact with the perpetrators of the barbaric terrorist act while the explosion was being organized.

The U.S. espionage department has accused THE WASHINGTON POST, which was the first to disclose CIA involvement in the bloody slaughter in Beirut, of allegedly placing in danger the lives of Americans in Lebanon, including four hostages seized there, by its report. That too has misfired.

One of the hostages escaped...and he has dotted all the "i's." "I do not think," he said, "that the newspaper article was the reason for our being seized. The reason lies in U.S. policy."

No further description of that policy is needed here. The whole world was loudly informed of what that amounts to by the heavy guns of the U.S. battleship New Jersey when it shelled Lebanon and its population. It is a policy of blackmail, intrigue, and the threat of military force, and we were once again eloquently reminded of this policy by the horrendous CIA-organized explosion in Beirut.

P. Schroeder said with regard to the latest of Washington's criminal acts: "Cases which have come to light indicate that we are financing terrorist activity in the Near East, a region of the world which is already extremely explosive."

The United States accuses virtually everyone of terrorism -- Nicaraguans, Lebanese, Palestinians -- all those, that is, who fight against the U.S. diktat and defend their independence. However, Washington's self-styled "fighters" against terrorism forget to look at their own hands, hands that always end up covered in blood.

COMMENT ON SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL IN MIDEAST POLICY

PM220931 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 85 Morning Edition pp 4-5

[Konstantin Geyvandov's "Political Observer's Opinion": "The Same Old Baggage"]

[Text] U.S. diplomacy has begun stirring itself again in the Near East. Last month U.S. Assistant Secretary of State R. Murphy visited a number of Arab countries and Israel, and the leader of the American foreign policy department, G. Shultz, has himself just paid a visit to the capitals of those same states. After the latter's departure Murphy again stayed on in the region. How is one to explain this "flurry" of diplomatic activity? To listen to the American spokesmen themselves, it would appear that they discovered "a readiness on the part of the Arabs for peace talks with Israel" and are hastening to help implement them.

This pitiful explanation is designed for those naive about Near East affairs, since it is well known that the Arab countries have been ready for peace talks designed to ensure an all-embracing, just, and durable settlement of the Near East conflict for several decades now. They have unswervingly supported the repeated initiatives put forward to this end by the Soviet Union and others, and in 1982 the pan-Arab summit at Fes formulated its own program for a political solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is in accord with the common aspirations of the world community as represented by the United Nations.

What "new factors" then apparently attracting Washington's attention are involved here, particularly as Secretary of State Shultz deemed it necessary in statements on the eve of his latest trip to the region to again reject the idea of creating an independent Palestinian state and to reaffirm the stability of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance and the identity of U.S. and Israeli postures on the gamut of questions connected with the Near East conflict? The aforementioned question received a direct answer after the first, the Israeli, stage of Shultz' visit, when Shultz spoke, as a result of the talks with Israeli Prime Minister Peres, of a "common resolve to make progress in the next few months toward direct talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel, without PLO participation."

In other words, Washington and Israel are still working toward the conclusion of separate deals, substituting a continuation of the notorious Camp David process for an all-embracing Near East settlement. Once you realize that the U.S.-Israeli allies do not recognize the Arab people of Palestine's right to self-determination and reject the idea of creating an independent Palestinian state, it becomes obvious that the organizing of "direct talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel without PLO participation" is designed to frustrate the solution of the Palestinian problem, which lies at the heart of a Near East settlement, and to completely undermine the PLO's role as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine.

If you add to this the stance adopted by Washington, which always follows Israel in stressing that there can be no question of Israel's reverting to the 1967 borders, then it is logical to suppose that the results of the proposed "direct talks" would perpetuate Israeli occupation of at least part of the West Bank of the River Jordan and the Gaza Strip and the denial of the Palestinians' right to a large part of the territory belonging to them. The United States tried to "push through" something similar when it forced Lebanon, the victim, to sit down for "direct talks" with its aggressor, Israel, and sign the shackling 17 May agreement of the same year. However, it is true that the Lebanese Government, under pressure from the popular masses, quickly came to its senses and, with support from Syria and other Arab states, repudiated the deal, a deal which effectively turned Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate.

Nevertheless, Israeli leaders, relying on crude military force, are trying even now, without the other side's consent, to achieve the goals set in the abrogated agreement of 17 May 1983, although they are having to leave Lebanese territory in the face of blows struck by Lebanese patriots. An "iron-fist" policy is being implemented in south Lebanon: Murder and the terrorizing and repression of civilians are being carried out on a massive scale, tens of thousands of inhabitants of population centers in south Lebanon have been forced to leave their homes, and a "security zone" for Israel is being set up on the territory of a neighboring sovereign state in violation of all the norms of international law. Activating its agents, Israel is going all out to prevent a political settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

As for the U.S. Administration, it is supporting the Israeli leaders' criminal actions in the most active way. The world public will never forget the American battleship New Jersey firing on the Lebanese from off the coast while the Israeli invaders incited yet another bout of intercommunal slaughter in the Lebanese mountains. Another Washington crime on Lebanese soil has now become public knowledge; it turns out that the terrorist act perpetrated in the suburbs of Beirut on 8 March, which cost 80 innocent lives and left hundreds wounded, was conceived and carried out with CIA participation. No less ominous is the fact that the present activation of U.S. diplomacy in the Near East "is being backed up" by the might of the aircraft carrier Nimitz, which has been quickly redeployed from the eastern Mediterranean to a base off Lebanon.

Of course, in seeking to arrange "direct talks between a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel without PLO participation," the U.S.-Israeli allies are making strategic alterations to their policy, considering it more expedient now to put in motion the old imperialist device of "divide and conquer." Resorting to it, Israeli Defense Minister Rabin has begun to detect differences among the Arab countries and to pay "compliments" to some of them, claiming, for example, that "Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq have formed an axis of relatively moderate states" and that "Jordan will scarcely go to war if Syria starts one against Israel." America's ABC television network reported with regard to Secretary of State Shultz' trip to the Near East that the "Reagan administration is getting ready to offer Jordan the opportunity of acquiring an arms consignment from the United States, a consignment which will include antiaircraft missiles and jet fighters, in order to induce it to more vigorous action within the framework of the Near East peace process"?!

The people of the Arab countries are particularly concerned by the fact that the entire U.S.-Israeli allies' present diplomatic activity is being deployed in an attempt to exploit the agreement signed by King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat on 11 February. Yet, this agreement confirms the recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine and urges the convening of a representative international conference on the Near East to settle the whole range of problems arising out of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Commenting on the results of the latest round of U.S. diplomatic activity in the Near East, the Paris newspaper LE MONDE observed that even those people who pinned some kind of hope on a timid renewal of the process leading to a peaceful settlement have failed to discover any signs of such. There is hardly anything surprising in this; the baggage that Washington's representatives took with them to the region has again shown that, in attempting to resolve the Near East crisis, they are still stubbornly persisting in an approach which has become firmly bogged down. The conflict in the Near East requires a comprehensive solution through collective efforts that take account of the interests of all the sides involved in it, above all Israel's Arab neighbors, who have been the victims of aggression. No one will claim that this is an easy or simple matter, but experience shows that this is the only way holding out prospects. One would have thought that the lessons of Lebanon at least would have taught the U.S.-Israeli allies that.

U.S. ASSISTING SOUTH AFRICA-ISRAELI NUCLEAR PROGRAM

LD230849 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1853 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Test] The racist Pretoria regime is working jointly with Israel on the creation of nuclear weapons, and they have already carried out a weapon test. Conyers, a member of the House of Representatives, and members of the public organization, the Washington Africa Bureau, presented new documentary evidence of this fact at a press conference in Washington. They adduced a large amount of prevously unpublished information confirming that on 22 September 1979 a test of a nuclear device took place in the South Atlantic. This test was, incidentally, pinpointed at the time by a U.S. spy satellite flying over that region. Washington did all it could, however, to keep this information from the world public.

This is no accident, for the Republic of South Africa's acquisition of the ability to produce nuclear weapons is to a significant degree the result of assistance from the United States, and cooperation in this field has expanded considerably since the Reagan administration took office. Even now Washington is endeavoring to conceal the truth. In the meantime, the new facts and figures made public at the Washington press conference testify to the most crude violation by the United States of the international treaty on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, and to the White House's premeditated steps to equip the South African racists with these weapons.

REAGAN GETS 'GO-AHEAD' TO USE HONDURAN TERRITORY

LD222054 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 22 May 85

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] The elaboration of specific plans for stepping up subversive actions by the Reagan administration against Nicaragua was the main theme of the White House meeting between President Reagan and Roberto Suazo Cordova, president of Honduras, who is in Washington on a visit. As a high-ranking government spokesman said, the question of the further joint actions by the two countries with respect to Nicaragua was at the center of the talks.

The United States, as is known, uses Honduran territory as a base for the training and transportation of bands of armed terrorists into Nicaragua. The process of constantly increasing the number of American troops deployed there continues at the same time: These can be used at any moment for direct aggression against Nicaragua, or any other country in the region.

The Administration spokesman stressed that the Honduran president is in full agreement with all aspects of U.S. policy with respect to Nicaragua. In other words, Reagan received the go-ahead for further use of Honduran territory as a bridgehead for preparing for an armed invasion of Nicaragua.

In a joint communique the United States confirmed its undertaking to come to the aid of Honduras if it is attacked. The Reagan administration is using this false formulation to confirm its inventions on the aggressive nature of Nicaragua. By all accounts, Washington is trying to use Honduran territory even more actively as a bridgehead for preparation of direct armed intervention against the Nicaragauan people.

REAGAN PRESSURES CONGRESSMEN FOR NICARAGUAN AID

LD222114 Moscow TASS in English 1907 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- By TASS commentator Sergey Kudryavskiy

Unwilling to put up with the refusal of the U.S. Congress to allocate 14 million dollars for Nicaraguan "contras" whom he calls "brothers", President Reagan is again trying to bring pressure to bear on U.S. legislators. Only this time he is going to request 42 million dollars in "humanitarian" aid to CIA hirelings. President Reagan's annoyance and frustration at the stance of the congressmen was so great that he is said to have hammered the table with his fist during a meeting with Republican senators Tuesday.

Voting is scheduled to take place on the Capitol Hill this week and, so, the U.S. Administration has launched a malicious anti-Nicaraguan campign. CIA Director William Casey accused Nicaragua of all grave sins, and alleged that the Soviet Union and Cuba had turned that country into a springboard for making their way into Central America.

Intimidating congressmen with the "Nicaraguan threat", President Reagan says that if the United States does not respond fittingly now it will face even more serious problems in years to come. In his turn U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said that the refusal of the House of Representatives to make 14 million dollars available to the "contras" spelt a setback for the United States which had international reverberations.

Trying to secure funds for Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries with the help of malicious lies, the Reagan administration is also making concrete steps toward a direct U.S. military intervention in Nicaragua. During the visit of Roberto Suazo, the head of the Honduran regime, to Washington a communique was signed which says in part that the United States would come to the aid of Honduras in case that country is "attacked". Thus, a formal legal pretext has been created for a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua which is known to threaten no one and is not going to attack anyone.

The While House would want to restore the former regime in Nicaragua. However, all U.S. attempts to enslave a people, which earned the cherished freedom at the cost of scores of thousands of lives of true patriots, are doomed to failure.

IZVESTIYA ARTICLE ON U.S. AID TO CENTRAL AMERICA

PM221018 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kuvshinnikov "International Commentary": "The Price of 'Generosity'"]

[Test] By an overshelming majority of votes the U.S. Senate has passed a bill on foreign aid. The United States gives a certain amount of money each year to developing countries, but not to all of them, of course. Washington lavishes its favors above all on those rulers who staunchly defend the U.S. ruling circles' interests.

Washington pays special attention to consolidating the positions of pro-American circles in Central American countries. More than one-half of the total aid approved by the Senate for Latin America is earmarked for four countries -- Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador. True, these states are indeed in acute need of currency injections, because their economies are in a state of advancing disintegration.

According to the 1983 figures, a 13-20 percent drop in per capita GNP was recorded. Almost 50 percent of these countries' able-bodied citizens are deprived of the opportunity to earn their living.

It would seem that in conditions of such economic collapse any gift is a blessing. However, no more than one-fourth of the total U.S. aid is earmarked for economic development needs. Even those relatively meager funds are swallowed up, as it were, by the cultivation of export crops whose production is advantageous above all for the transnational corporations.

True, a certain percentage of the revenue from agricultural exports that does not end up in the transnational corporations' safes or the private accounts of dishonest dictator-speculators does reach the "banana republics'" state coffers, but from there, in order to ultimately reach their "primary source," the funds go almost entirely to the improvement of the repressive apparatus and struggle against the patriots. The dictators request weapons and experts from the selfsame United States.

On the eve of the discussion of the needs of the Central American "Four" in the sphere of military and economic aid, a bipartisan group of congressmen on arms control and foreign policy accused the White House of deception with respect to the true content and objectives of the aid given to at least one of them, El Salvador. A report drawn up by the group claims: "The economic and military aid, which will total at least $557 million this year, aggravates El Salvador's problems and will prolong the civil war."

Since 1980 the United States has given more than $2 billion in aid to El Salvador in various forms, claiming that three-fourths of this money was allocated to economic and social needs. However, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, the aforementioned group of lawmakers, checking actual expenditure and not the articles of the budget, reached the following conclusion: Only 15 percent of the money is used for development purposes and the rest goes to military deliveries. The Salvadoran Army has grown from 12,000 to 42,000 men over the past 4 years. This is the true price of the U.S. capitalists' "generosity" which the peoples of Central American countries have to pay.

COMPARISON OF U.S.-USSR TRADE COMMISSION TALKS

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 23 May in its First Edition carries a TASS report on the U.S.-USSR Joint Commercial Commission session talks, entitled "For the Development of Cooperation." It has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 22 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page A 1, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph four, line one PRAVDA reads: ... a number of possible business cooperation projects...(supplying "possible")

Last paragraph, last line PRAVDA reads: ...the two countries.

On the same day M. Baldrige held a press conference. He stressed that during his meeting in Moscow, which took place in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere, practical agreement was reached on eliminating certain obstacles to the expansion of trade between the two countries which exist at present.

The U.S. secretary of commerce said that the main aim of the meetings was to restore the machinery for regular discussion and resolution of trade problems between the United States and the USSR at a high level, a machinery which has been lacking in recent years. We succeeded, he said, in achieving this aim . . . . (PRAVDA ends, supplying additional passage)

APRIL NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SESSION REVIEWED

PM221847 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 20, May pp 26-27

[Vladimir Godyna article: "Session of the Chinese Parliament"]

[Text] The 3rd session of the 6th National People's Congress, the supreme body of state power in the People's Republic of China, closed in beijing in the first half of April.

The Chinese parliament discussed a number of important state questions and documents. The Premier of the State Council, Zhao Ziyang, delivered a report on the work of the government, and there were reports on the draft plan for China's economic and social development in 1985, on the fulfillment of the state budget in 1984, and on the state budget for 1985. Also discussed was a draft decree granting the state council the power to work out temporary rules and regulations in matters of transforming the economic system and expanding ties with the world at large. Other documents were also discussed.

The session approved the joint Sino-British declaration on Xianggang (Hong Kong) and decided to set up a commission to draft a basic law for the special administrative area of Xianggang -- China. Resolutions were adopted following reports on the work of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate. The participants in the session also approved a bill on inheritance.

It is noteworthy that, unlike previous sessions there was no discussion of China's foreign policy. The participants concentrated all their attention on problems of domestic economic development encountered by the country in the course of its economic reform.

The attention of the deputies centered on Zhao Ziyang's report "The Present Economic Situation and the Reform of the Economic System," which summarized the results of China's economic development in the past year and outlined the tasks for this year, the last of the sixth five-year-plan period (1981-85).

Speaking of 1984's successes, the Premier noted the considerable growth of industrial and agricultural output. Some 407 million tons of grain and 6 million tons of cotton were harvested, 770 million tons of coal were mined, and oil production reached 114 million tons. About 600 million square metres of living space were built in the countryside, and about 100 million in towns and urban settlements. Spending on culture, research, education and the medical services rose somewhat, and defence spending went up by 3 per cent.

At the same time, the report said that the economy was experiencing difficulties. In the course of the reform, when economic recovery has been taking place primarily as a result of a reduction in centralized planning ("the market is the main regulator"), decentralization in industrial management, encouragement of private enterprise and other innovations, many old problems remain and new ones have arisen. The supply of energy, raw materials and initial products remains strained and the work of transport needs improving. Among the problems that cannot be ignored, the speaker mentioned the insufficiently rational structure of production and the exaggerated volume of non-budgetary capital investments in fixed assets. Contrary to state interests, some financial organizations have been competing among themselves to grant credits, while some factories, administrative and other non-production organizations arbitrarily increased wages in their own interests, paid bonuses and extras that were not warranted by a growth in production efficiency and labor productivity.

All this has resulted in a drastic growth in bank credits and the consumption fund.

The unjustified growth in the amount of money in circulation (in 1984 an additional 8 billion yuan were issued), compounded by other harmful tendencies, has resulted in price rises and a noticeable aggravation of the economic situation.

As the State Council report notes, the economic troubles are harmful side-effects of the reorganization process. Thus, prices have soared following the granting of extensive independence to factories in setting prices for their products, while the abuse of the wages fund was due to an erroneous application of the principle of material incentives. The Premier stressed that it is difficult to avoid such phenomena during a reform and that only by means of the reform can they be overcome. As for other negative consequences, he said, they are due either to insufficient foresight or to the absence of strict control over the implementation of the set measures. Here he stressed the need to prevent a repetition of such mistakes and to learn the lessons they provide.

Much space was given in the report to questions of the struggle against various abuses during implementation of the reforms. Certain "harmful trends" have lately been on the increase. These include the arbitrary payment of bonuses and extras in kind and money, the arbitrary raising of prices in the pursuit of higher profits, the use by Party and economic cadres of their offices to resell materials that are in very short supply, the holding of drinking feasts, bribery and corruption.

The report notes that 1985 is the first year of implementing the decisions taken by the Party's Central Committee in October 1984 to reform the economic system in the cities. As was stated by Zhao Ziyang, two key tasks must be fulfilled -- the reform of wages and the reform of the price system. The first provides for the gradual elimination of the long-established evil of "eating from the common bowl," or levelling in distribution. In recent years the wages of the working people have grown faster than labour productivity and the national income. To demand still more at present, the report says, would mean to demand the impossible, and, in general, it is virtually impossible to solve all the problems that have accumulated in the wages system over the past 20-odd years.

As for the second task, it has been decided to try to combine free and fixed prices. This reform will be carried out in the conditions of the excessive amount of money issued in 1984 and the higher prices of some commodities. A big step forward must be made, while at the same time major fluctuations in prices must be staved off. Zhao Ziyang admitted that the cost of living in cities had risen, and called for the strict punishment of people violating the state policy of prices and financial and economic discipline, or engaging in profiteering.

Along with the further development of individual peasant farming and the economic reform with its emphasis on the towns, the attraction of foreign capital remains a strategic goal. The speaker cited figures indicating an activization of the "open doors" policy. The establishment of 741 mixed enterprises, based on Chinese and foreign investments, was authorized in 1984. This figure, as it was noted, exceeds the total number of such enterprises set up in the five preceding years. The volume of foreign capital actually used in China in one form or another amounted to $2.66 billion. Contracts have been signed for the import of over a thousand types of foreign equipment and technology. The volume of deals concluded has grown enormously since 1973.

It is worth noting that there are plans to form so-called open zones in addition to the four special economic zones (in the South China provinces of Fujian and Guangdong) and the 14 port cities.

What distinguishes them from the special economic zones is that the goods produced will be intended not just for export but also for the home market. Three open zones have already been chosen -- in the delta of the Yangzi and Zhujiang rivers, and in the south of Fujian Province. Officials say that soon the entire "coastal belt" of China, with a population of more than 200 million, will be opened up to the world.

Judging from the Chinese press, the attitude in the country, and in particular in the Communist Party, to the "open doors" policy, to boosting the economy with the help of private enterprise, and to the reform of the economic system, is far from united. Articles keep appearing in national and provincial newspapers complaining that "some officials are not demonstrating enough conscientiousness and understanding, lack the necessary ideological training and experience." "Some comrades," the newspaper Renmin Ribao wrote recently, "see only problems in the present situation and have doubts about the reforms."

Serious concern over the negative tendencies in China's social and economic life and the mistakes made in the course of the reform was expressed by a number of participants in the National People's Congress session. Deputy Cong Sheng (Heilongjiang Province) noted that the government's report did not devote enough attention to radical measures to solve the problems that have either arisen or become worse during the reforms.

Other speakers were sceptical about the positive assessment of the situation in Shenzhen, the special economic zone near Hong Kong. Their views were quoted by Renmin Ribao which wrote that Zhengzhen cannot serve as a model for other parts of the country because corruption and other unhealthy phenomena are rampant there. The Premier of the State Council himslef called for a unity of views, and noted the need not only to develop the economy but also to consolidate the economic management. He again confirmed the principle of giving scope and freedom of action in microspheres, while holding on to the control and management of macrospheres. He drew attention to the need to study the state of affairs and to work out steps to regulate the economy nationwide.

Much attention was devoted at the session to the question of Xianggang (Hong Kong). A joint declaration of the governments of China and Britain on Xianggang was signed in Beijing in December 1984 after two years of talks. As from July 1, 1997, China will regain sovereignty over the territory, but the social and economic system, the laws and way of life of the Xianggang population will remain in place for the next 50 years. It will also retain its status as a free port and an international financial centre. The Hong Kong dollar will remain freely convertible. The declaration also guarantees the inviolability of the property of foreigners in Xianggang. The territory will retain its right independently to maintain and develop economic and cultural relations with other countries, while questions of foreign policy and defence will be within the competence of the central government in Beijing.

The preservation of the capitalist system in Xianggang for half a century after 1997, it was noted at the session of the National People's Congress, implies in practice realization of the "one state -- two systems" concept. As the documents approved at the session show, by its significance this concept transcends the bounds of the Xianggang question and has yet "an important stimulating role" to play in the cause of securing Taiwan's return to the homeland's fold.

RADIO PEACE, PROGRESS ON PRC-USSR RELATIONS

OW181425 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 17 May 85

[Glebov commentary: "The Soviet Union's Line on the Question of Relations With China"]

[Text] Dear listeners, the CPSU and the Soviet Government have always held that improving relations with China is one of their main tasks. This task is inseparable from the general policy of our party and government to develop fraternal relations with all socialist countries.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Gorbachev pointed out at a plenum of the CPSU Central Committee in April that the Soviet Union would firmly adhere to the policy of strengthening mutual contacts and cooperation with all other socialist countries including the People's Republic of China.

Station commentator Glebov writes:

Under the present conditions, the strengthening of unity among all socialist countries in the world is not only a positive strategy decided by the nature of the socialist system but also a necessity to cope with the special international situation at present.

In recent years, the U.S. imperialists have stepped up schemes against peace and progressive forces. Washington's efforts to expand its nuclear weapons have reached a frightening scale and it has continued to modernize powerful antipersonnel weapons. The imperialists want to expand arms competition to outer space. Washington has repeatedly pointed out that those military activities are an organic part of its notorious anti-communist crusade. Washington's announced policy has become the core of U.S. foreign policy.

All this calls on socialist countries to pay particular attention to heightening vigilance. Socialist countries must closely cooperate and take coordinated actions because socialist countries play a key role in resisting U.S. militarization. U.S. imperialism itself also knows this point very well. This is why the imperialists have always been trying to sabotage the coordinated action of socialist countries. U.S. imperialism's sowing of discord among socialist countries is also to weaken peace-loving forces. Precisely for this reason, the imperialist group is doing everything to prevent the further improvement of relations between the Soviet Union and China. They are continuing to hold the China card in their hands in order to serve the global strategic interest of anti-socialism.

The Soviet people have always held that they have the responsibility to resist imperialism's ideological sabotage with all their efforts. We are convinced that the Chinese people will also take a stand in accordance with the interests of peace and socialism on the issue of relations between the Soviet Union and China.

RUSAKOV MEETS WITH DPRK'S HWANG CHANG-YOP

LD230210 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newcast]

[Text] Comrade Rusakov today met with Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers Party [WPK]. During the conversation, which was held in a warm and comradely atmosphere, an exchange of opinions took place on questions of developing relations of friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the WPK. Taking part in the conversation was Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR.

PRAVDA CITES NODONG SINMUN ON DPRK INITIATIVE

PM221620 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "NODONG SINMUN on DPRK Initiative"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 21 May -- The proposal to create a joint North-South committee on economic cooperation put forward by the DPRK during the latest round of economic talks between the DPRK and South Korea is a noteworthy initiative with a view to extensive exchanges between the sides, the newspaper NODONG SINMUN writes.

This DPRK proposal was dictated by a desire to promote the restoration of economic ties that had been broken off, the improvement of North-South relations as a whole, and the speedier implementation of the cause of the country's unification. It accords with the entire nation's aspirations not only in the light of the committee's activity, but also from the viewpoint of the realistic demand for the creation of a consultative organization capable of making decisions on questions of economic cooperation and exchange.

DPRK JOURNALISTS VISIT USSR, MEET TOLKUNOV

PM231018 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 May 85 Morning Edition, p 5

[TASS report: "At IZVESTIYA'S Invitation"]

[Text] A delegation of DPRK journalists headed by Chae Chun-pyong, chief editor of the newspaper NINJU CHOSON, was received in the Kremlin 21 May by L.N. Tolkunov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union.

The Korean journalists have come to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the IZVESTIYA editorial office to celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory over fascist Germany. The visitors have been to Leningrad and Kiev in addition to Moscow and have held meetings and conversations with the leaders of soviet and party organs and representatives of the public.

INDIA'S RAJIV GANDI CONTINUES VISIT TO USSR

Indira Gandhi Square Ceremony

LD221503 Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- One of the squares in the Soviet capital's south west has been named after Indira Gandhi. Located at the intersection of two straightline avenues, the sun-swept square, bordered with the fresh verdure of young boulevards, is particularly beautiful on these spring days.

The square was named after the outstanding stateswoman and public figure of India at a ceremony attended by more than fifteen hundred people. Among them were Guriy Marchuk, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, other Soviet and Indian officials, activists of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society, and representatives of Moscow's Friendship University which was and is being attended by many Indian students. The ceremony was attended by Indira Gandhi's son -- Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India, who is currently in the USSR on an official friendly visit.

The Indira Gandhi Square "will vividly symbolise the unbreakable friendship between our peoples, the indissolubility of the ties which bring our two countries together", Nikolay Goldin, president of the Soviet-Indian Friendship Society, minister of the USSR, said at the ceremony.

The Soviet minister pointed out the immense prestige of Indira Gandhi and the profound respect in which she had been held by the peoples of all continents. "At the high post of the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement she came forward with a number of important initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and at easing international tension, at ending the arms race, and at establishing a new international economic order based on the principles of equality and justice".

Indira Gandhi visited the Soviet Union more than once and each of her visits promoted stronger relations of friendship between the Soviet Union and India, Rajiv Gandhi said, speaking at the ceremony. Cooperation between India and the Soviet Union embraces diverse fields right up to outer space. It is mutually advantageous and brings benefit to the peoples of both countries. Together we advocate peace and disarmament. India will continue to do everything to attain these goals. Let this square which from now on will be named after Indira Gandhi always remind us of the staunchness of that woman who devoted her entire life to the cause of freedom and equality of people, peace and friendship among nations, the distinguished Indian guest said.

Rajiv Gandhi was invited to cut the ribbon. The veil fell and those present saw a commemorative stele of polished granite on the green lawn. An inscription on the stele reads: "Indira Gandhi Square. Named in 1985 in honour of the outstanding stateswoman and political figure of India, a great friend of the Soviet Union, Indira Gandhi (1917-1984)". The national anthems of the two countries were played. Pink carnations were laid at the foot of the stele.

Arkhipov, Gandhi Attend Meeting

LD221853 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] A meeting took place today in the Hall of Columns of the House of Unions between Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, and representatives of the Soviet public. Our correspondent Vladimir Beloshapko reports:

Such meetings have become a good tradition, provided for by the programs for visits to our country by leading figures from friendly India. This is how it should be, for the consolidation of Soviet-Indian friendship has become, without exaggeration, the personal aim of tens, or hundreds, of millions of Soviet and Indian people.

Today's meeting in the Hall of Columns was also clear confirmation of the profound respect and sincere fellow-feeling of the Soviet people for India. This is how our country's feelings for the friendly republic and its leaders were expressed by Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers:

[Begin Arkhipov recording] Representatives of the broad public have gathered here today to welcome you, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, with all their hearts, and through you, all the Indian people, who are linked with the Soviet people by strong, long-standing bonds of friendship, mutual respect, and trust.

The friendship of almost a billion people, the populations of our two countries, forms the firm basis of Soviet-Indian relations. We sincerely value this friendship. Among the multimillion-strong Soviet public, deep satisfaction is evoked by the fact that the Soviet Union and India speak from united or close positions on topical questions of the present day. We declare again today that the Soviet Union has been, is, and will remain a reliable friend of independent, peace-loving India. [end recording]

As you know, comrades, the International Lenin Prize Committee, as a mark of recognition of the outstanding services of Indira Gandhi in the struggle to preserve and strengthen peace, posthumously awarded her the International Lenin Prize for strengthening peace between peoples. To the applause of those present, Academician Blokhin, the chairman of the committee, presented Rajiv Gandhi with the diploma conferring the prize upon the outstanding daughter of the Indian people.

Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian prime minister, delivered a speech in reply:

[Begin Gandhi recording in English, fading into Russian translation] I bring warm greetings from the people of India to the great Soviet people, the Soviet leadership, and to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. During this visit, we have discussed questions concerning the prospects for our cooperation over the coming 15 years, the opportunities for which are great. Soviet-Indian friendship clearly shows how two states with differing social systems can work together effectively in the interests of strengthening peace. [end recording]

At the end of the meeting, the Indian guests and representatives of the Soviet public listened to a concert.

Gandhi Press Conference

LD221747 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1645 GMT 22 May 85

["Rajiv Gandhi's Press Conference -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (TASS) -- Our talks in Moscow embraced a wide circle of questions and were marked by cordiality and openness, as befits friends stated Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi. He spoke today at a press conference in Moscow for Soviet and foreign journalists.

India and the Soviet Union are united by close and friendly ties. Our friendship has developed and matured over more than 30 years. We also stayed together in times that were difficult for us. Our friendship is not directed against anyone. Relations between India and the USSR, continued Rajiv Gandhi, embrace a wide circle of questions in trade, science, technology, culture, and so on. He recalled that more than 70 industrial projects, built with the assistance of the Soviet Union, are operating successfully in India. India and the Soviet Union are united by deep wishes to expand these relations and to put them on a long-term basis.

We have just signed two highly important agreements on economic cooperation. The first deals with the building of important industrial installations in India. Under this agreement, the Soviet Union is providing a credit of R1 billion to finance deliveries of Soviet goods and services in the spheres of power industry, engineering, and the oil and coal industries, the Indian prime minister said.

The second agreement covers the main areas of development in the spheres of the economy, trade, science, and technology between India and the USSR for the period up to the year 2000. This agreement envisages cooperation in the power industry, the coal, oil, and gas industries, science and technology, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, engineering, and medicine. The main attention was given to developing trade and widening its scope, Rajiv Gandhi said.

Indian-Soviet cooperation should be considered in the broad context of our adherance to a course of peace. Our countries oppose an escalation of the nuclear arms race. We are striving to eliminate the growing danger of a nuclear war. The Delhi Declaration on nuclear disarmament and the inadmissability of the proliferation of the arms race to outer space was recently adopted at the meeting of the heads of six states and governments in Delhi. We are pleased to note that the Soviet Union positively appraised this declaration. We have no doubt that our countries will always be together in a desire for peace, Rajiv Gandhi stated.

Replying to questions, the Indian prime minister stressed in this connection that the Soviet Union is the only nuclear power to support the Delhi Declaration, while the United States did not even bother to study it.

Speaking about India's attitude to the Soviet proposal that outer space should not become an arena of "star wars," the Indian prime minister said that India is opposed to any new directions in the arms race, including space. We believe, he stressed, that every time the arms race takes a new direction, the danger of a nuclear war does not diminish, but increases. In our opinion, he said, the U.S. "Strategic Defense Initiative" will only whip up the arms race and present mankind with an even greater threat of nuclear war.

Dwelling on reports in the press in Western countries about work going on in Pakistan on creating its own nuclear weapon, the Indian prime minister said that India believes that Pakistan is very close to creating such a weapon. This worries India. What bothers us even more, Rajiv Gandhi noted, is that the United States could do more to encourage Pakistan to renounce its program to create a nuclear weapon.

Rajiv Gandhi expressed his support for the idea of a freeze by the nuclear powers of their nuclear potential. As for the role of states that do not possess nuclear arms, in his words, they can make a contribution by mobilizing public opinion against an extension of the arms race in new spheres, and bring home to all that these days nuclear war cannot be restricted to the nuclear powers alone -- it will destroy all mankind.

The Indian prime minister highly assessed the Nonaligned Movement's efforts to preserve peace on earth.

Rajiv Gandhi said that the Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation treaty had played and is continuing to play a major role in relations between the two countries. Within the framework of this treaty, economic, cultural, and other relations, which in future will become even more fruitful, are developing.

Delhi Reports Gandhi Remarks

BK221619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] The prime minister has said India is extremely worried about Pakistan's nuclear program, especially because the United States is doing nothing to stop it. Answering questions at a crowded news conference in Moscow this afternoon, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said we feel Pakistan is very close to developing a nuclear weapon. Washington, which could do more to stop this threat, appears to be turning a blind eye to the matter which is extremely serious. He pointed out that Pakistan is the only exception to the Symington amendment and some nationals of that country who were apprehended while exporting triggering devices to Pakistan were allowed to leave after the charges raised against them were modified.

Reporters representing practically the entire world press asked the prime minister a broad range of questions, most of them relating to the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the arms race. There were more than 40 questions during his 45-minute press conference. Mr Rajiv Gandhi appreciated the Soviet Union's acceptance of the Delhi Declaration on disarmament issued by leaders of six nations representing different continents. He said the United States did not even bother to pick up the declaration.

Answering a question about the militarization of outer space, he emphasized India's total opposition to the arms race being given any new dimension. The nuclear weapon countries must realize that a heavy responsibility lies on them. There is little that the non-nuclear weapons or developing countries can do to bring about a freeze on nuclear proliferation. They can only build up public opinion and put pressure on the nuclear weapon states, but they cannot force them.

Asked about the proposal for Asian security, Mr Gandhi said this is an old concept. We believe that no country should interfere in areas outside its own. We had proposed to make the Indian Ocean a nuclear-free zone and several other countries had also put forward their own proposals. There is a growing fear among Asian nations and we do not want Asia to become another hotbed of tension.

Asked whether developments in Sri Lanka figured in his talks with the Soviet leaders, the prime minister said that the Soviet side appreciated India's role to bring about an agreement there. The position is sensitive and the Sri Lanka Government would have to take steps for a political solution. There can be no military solution to this problem. He expressed the hope that the Sri Lanka Government will come forward with a political solution.

On Afghanistan, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said he had put forward the Indian point of view to the Soviet side. Our position, he said, is very clear and we do not want any country to interfere or intervene in the affairs of another country. He added that Mr Gorbachev gave him some idea of the magnitude of assistance that insurgents were receiving.

Replying to questions about his coming visit to the United States, the prime minister said he is looking forward to meeting President Reagan whom he had met only once before. He said India's relations with the United States are very good and we are looking to them for technology, closer cultural exchanges, and more trade. The visit figured in his talks with Mr Gorbachev, he said.

Gandhi Speaks on TV

LD221722 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; talk by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi -- recorded, in English, with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] Dear friends: I am glad to be speaking to you in your homes. I convey greetings to you from the 700 million-strong Indian people. The people of our country value your friendship and have an attitude of great respect toward you. I have already had the pleasure of visiting the Soviet Union. Every time I come to your country, I always feel the warmth of your friendship and I learn something new about your successes in art, science, and economic transformations. The technological progress of the Soviet Union is well known throughout the world.

It gives me pleasure to report to you that there are in India many centers where the languages and history of your country are studied. Many Soviet scientists study Indian culture and the contemporary situation in India. However, the reciprocal interest of our countries in each other is not restircted to merely this framework. The peoples of our countries express an enormous and constantly growing aspiration to become familiar with each other's literature, music, dances, and movies. Soviet and Indian cinematographers have jointly made a movie about Jawaharlal Nehru. This film reminds us once again that Jawaharlal Nehru welcomed the Great October Revolution as one of the most significant events in the history of mankind. Even before he became the first prime minister of free India, he strived for the peoples of India and the Soviet Union to know each other well and cooperate. Jawaharlal Nehru laid in our country the foundations of Soviet-Indian friendship. As you probably know, he adhered to the principles of nonalignment and refused to enter military blocs. Soviet statesmen have always had a friendly attitude toward India and respected our status as a nonaligned country.

Indian-Soviet friendship has constantly been expanding over the last 30 years. You have helped us to build many major industrial enterprises; you have assisted our efforts in the creation of a contemporary national economy. Works build by your engineers can be seen everywhere in India. Such works as Bhilai and Bokaro have become symbols of the friendship between the peoples of our two countries. Thousands of our technical specialists have undergone training in your country and are now in charge of enterprises built with the Soviet Union's assistance. Plans are now being developed to further our cooperation.

Last year, we witnessed a bright and inspired example of scientific cooperation between the peoples of our two countries. A young Indian pilot carried out a flight alongside your cosmonauts on board the Soviet spaceship Soyuz T-11. Millions of Indians followed the flight's progress day and night. It awoke an enormous admiration for Soviet technology and Soviet successes in our people.

The history of India is many thousands of years old. Our country was one of the first cradles of civilization. In its ancient history there were periods of a golden age. One of the earliest of such periods was the epoch of Buddha in the 6th century BC. Buddha taught us kindness; he taught us to avoid hate and violence. Four centuries ago, the fabulous wealth of India drew European traders to our shores. Gradually, these traders turned into our rulers. By the time we gained our freedom, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, colonial exploitation had already transformed India into one of the poorest countries in the world.

Our task consisted in overcoming technological backwardness and to rid ourselves of mass poverty. We have won half this battle. We have created the essential economic potential which puts us in a condition to complete the task facing us. The volume of our agricultural production has increased almost threefold. Various branches of industry have grown and developed in the country, including heavy industries. We have built research centers and educational institutions. In many respects, our old disease of poverty still remains; but we have the technical base, hope, and the will to ensure a happy future. This legacy was bequeathed to us by Indira Gandhi, who continued the cause begun by Jawaharlal Nehru.

Almost three-quarters of the population of India comprises people younger than 35 years old. They do not remember colonial dominion. For this reason they cannot fully understand the deprivation that was the lot of our country's elder generation. They are rushing impatiently into the 21st century. It is my task, and the task of the other leaders elected by our people, to implement their aspirations. In fulfilling this task we will strive to preserve everything valuable from our great legacy, while at the same time acquiring new knowledge.

This dream, this aspiration, can only be implemented in conditions of peace. Peace on earth, peace in the waters, and peace in the skies, as one of our ancient poets said. Therefore it is quite natural that we wish to develop our friendship with other peoples who are just as devoted to the cause of peace. This common aspiration for peace brings the peoples of India and the Soviet Union closer together.

We know the great sufferings your country experienced during the wars which followed your revolution. We know the sacrifices made by each family in your great country. The rose of your love of peace arose out of these sufferings and this blood, just as the lotus of our hope and purposefulness grew out of our sufferings in the time of colonial domination. So let us cherish this rose and this lotus.

The friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples benefits the whole of mankind. We are working together to strengthen peace. Our friendship is not directed against any other country. Our relations serve as an example of how countries with differing social systems can coexist, develop trust, and work in the name of the good of the peoples of both our countries and the whole of humanity. The Soviet and Indian peoples will continue to advance toward the bright future together.

Long live Soviet-Indian friendship. [Gandhi says last sentence in Russian]

Gorbachev At Farewell Ceremony

LD230859 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today left Moscow for the Belorussian capital of Minsk. He is staying in the USSR on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

A farewell ceremony was held for the Indian prime minister at the Georgiyevski Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace before his departure.

Rajiv Gandhi was bidden farewell by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The ceremony was also attended by Nikolay Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister of the USSR; Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture; Sergey Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister of the USSR; Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and other officials.

Escorted by motorcycle outriders, the motorcade went from the Kremlin to the Sheremetyevo Airport.

TV Shows Ceremony, Departure

OW231151 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0830 GMT on 23 May, in its scheduled evening "Vremya" newscast, carries a report over video on the departure of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for Minsk from Moscow. Video shows Gandhi accompanied by his wife and a group of other officials entering a hall with the announcer saying it is the "Georgiyevskiy Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace."

Video cuts to show Soviet leaders standing in a line awaiting the Indian guests. Shown from left to right on the screen are Gromyko, his wife Lyudmila, Raisa Gorbacheva, (?an interpreter), Gorbachev, Tikhonov, Sokolov, Demichev, and Arkhipov. Video shows the two groups approaching one another and Gorbachev shaking hands with Gandhi and other officials, then cutting to show a group of photographers and the official party taking up positions for photographs. Shown from left to right are Gromyko, Lyudmila Gromyko, Raisa Gorbacheva, Sonia Gandhi, Gandhi, Gorbachev, Tikhonov, Sokolov, Demichev, and Arkhipov. As the camera pans the group the announcer says that "Comrades Tikhonov, Gromyko, Demichev, Sokolov, Arkhipov, and other officials took part in the ceremony."

Gorbachev, with Tikhonov behind his left shoulder, is then again shown in conversation with Gandhi before the entire group is shown walking along a long flight of stairs leading from the hall. As the group appraoches the camera, Gandhi can be seen in the lead with his wife. Gorbachev is no longer shown, while Tikhonov walks down the stairs behind Gandhi and is seen supported by an aide who holds him under the left arm.

Camera cuts to the outside of the Grand Kremlin Palace and shows Gandhi entering a limousine as Tikhonov walks by, still with an aide by his side.

After shots of the motorcade exiting the Kremlin and driving along Moscow streets, video cuts to show the group leaving their vehicles at Sheremetyevo Airport. The announcer says that here the guests "were seen off by Comrades Tikhonov, Gromyko, and Demichev." Video shows Gandhi and Tikhonov walking past a group of flag-waving people toward a red carpet where they are met by the commander of the honor guard. Gandhi and Tikhonov stand at attention during the playing of the state anthems of India and the USSR with the camera cutting to show the honor guard, an Aeroflot aircraft in the background, and shots of Gromyko and Demichev looking on. After inspecting the honor guard, Gandhi, with Tikhonov by his side, is shown shaking hands with Soviet and other officials. The announcer says that "Comrade Arkhipov, ministers of the USSR, and other officials took part in the sendoff." As the honor guard marches past, Tikhonov and Gandhi are again shown standing together on the red carpet with other officials in the background.

The video report cuts to show Gandhi receiving a report from a uniformed man, probably the aircraft captain, and shaking hands with Tikhonov and Gromyko at the foot of the aircraft ramp as Demichev and Lyudmila Gromyko look on. The video report concludes with shots of the Soviet leaders waving to Gandhi, who waves back from the top of the ramp. As video shows the aircraft taking off, the announcer says that "on his tour of the country the Indian prime minister is being accompanied by Comrade Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials."

Gandhi Arrives in Minsk

LD230931 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Minsk May 23 TASS -- Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India, now on an official friendly visit in the U.S.S.R. at the invitation of the Soviet leadership, arrived in Minsk, the capital of the Soviet Republic of Belorussia, today.

At the Minsk airport he was greeted by Ivan Polyakov, president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Belorussia, and Vladimir Brovikov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Belorussia.

Belorussia is one of the 15 Soviet republics. It is situated in the western region of the U.S.S.R. One out of every four inhabitants of the republic perished in World War II. Before the war Belorussia had a population of 9.2 million. By now the figure grew by only 700,000 compared with the pre-war level. Nazi occupation troops destroyed 209 cities and towns, 9,200 settlements and villages. 628 villages were burnt down together with their dwellers.

With the help of fraternal Soviet republics Belorussia rehabilitated the war-ravaged economy, and achieved its rapid and steady progress over the four decades after the war. Manufacturing facilities in Belorussia today produce half the amount of potassium fertilizers and polyethylene, one out of every six tractors and metal-cutting machines, one out of every 20 automobiles turned out in the U.S.S.R. The republic exports products of more than 500 types to many countries, including India where it ships heavy-duty dump trucks, tractors, machine tools, electrical equipment and instruments. Young men and women from India study at higher educational establishments of Minsk.

PRAVDA REPORTS KARMAL 19-20 MAY STOPOVER IN MOSCOW

PM221322 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Stopover"]

[Text] The DRA delegation headed by B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, which has just ended an official friendly visit to Poland, stopped over in Moscow 19-20 May on its way home.

DEMICHEV OPENS SRV CULTURAL FESTIVAL IN MOSCOW

LD211858 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 May 85

[Speech by candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Minister of Culture Petr Nilovich Demichev at a ceremony at Moscow's Bolshoy Theater marking the start of the Vietnamese cultural festival -- live]

[Text] Dear Comrades and Friends! A Vietnamese cultural festival, marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the SRV, begins today in our country. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, on behalf of those involved in the Soviet culture and all the Soviet people, permit me to sincerely welcome the delegation from the SRV headed by Comrade Hoang Tung, secretary of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee. [applause] We also welcome Comrade Nguyen Van Hieu, the SRV minister of culture, other members of the official delegation, and all participants in the cultural festival. [applause]

The fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind recently marked the 40th anniversary of the great victory over fascism. As a result of the victory, the conditions arose for many people to embark on the path of national liberation and socialist construction. The winning of independence by Vietnam gave a powerful impetus to the development of friendship and comprehensive cooperation between our countries. The working people of the SRV recently celebrated the 95th anniversary of the birth of Ho Chi Minh, the first president of the Republic, who repeatedly stressed the historic importance of the Great October Socialist Revolution for the liberation of the Vietnamese people from colonial oppression. The forces of colonialism and imperialist reaction were unwilling to reconcile themselves to the victory of the Vietnamese people. U.S. imperialism unleashed a brutal, annexationist war against the people of Vietnam. The entire Vietnamese people, young and old alike, rose up in struggle against the aggressors and won a great victory. The dream of the Vietnamese people, the unification of the country, was accomplished thanks to the consistent and wise policy of the Vietnamese Communist Party and thanks to the utmost support of the Soviet Union, the other fraternal socialist countries, and all forces of peace and progress.

The people of Vietnam recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of the total liberation of the southern part of their country. This opened a new stage in the construction of an independent and united Socilist Vietnam. Our fraternal ties with the people of Vietnam are successfully developing in all areas on the basis of the friendship and cooperation treaty and the long-term program for the development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation. Cooperation in the sphere of culture and the arts is also successfully developing. The cultural ties between the socialist countries have a profound and positive impact on the spiritual life of our peoples, on the formation of the new man. They promote the mutual spiritual enrichment of our peoples and the strengthening of the cohesion of the socialist community countries in their historic struggle for peace and the triumph of the ideals of communism.

Today we have every right to speak about the greatly increased level of our cooperation, about the fruitful process of mutual enrichment embracing our cultures, and about the formation of the general outlines of an international socialist culture. The names of many Vietnamese writers, composers, masters of fine and applied art, cinematographers, and artists of various kinds are well known in the USSR. Our country occupies first place among foreign publishers of Vietnamese literature.

During the post-war years alone, about 300 books and brochures by Vietnamese authors have been published in the Soviet Union. Their combined print run was more than 14 million copies. Our ties in the sphere of cinema, fine arts and music are developing successfully. Singing groups, musical and dance ensembles, a traditional national theater group, ballet and circus groups, and individual artists will perform for Soviet audiences during the SRV cultural festival. Vietnamese artists will perform in 20 cities of the union republics, art exhibitions will be held, there will be documentary exhibitions, exhibitions of books and photographs will take place, and films will be shown. During this period, Soviet cultural workers and those involved in the arts will be glad to receive the delegations of Vietnamese artists, composers, writers, actors, cinematographers and architects. During these meetings, various professional questions and the further intensification of cultural cooperation will be discussed.

We are confident that the SRV cultural festival will be a success. There is no doubt that this cultural festival will be a graphic demonstration of the indestructible friendship between our peoples, which is based on a shared Marxist-Leninist world outlook and the principles of socialist internationalism. [Applause] Another important step will be taken in the implementation of the task set by the CPSU and the Vietnamese Communist Party, in terms of which culture and art are called upon to contribute to the further drawing together of our peoples and their mutual spiritual enrichment, to the achievement of fresh successes in socialist construction.

Long live Soviet-Vietnamese friendship! Long live peace and socialism! [Applause]

SRV Official Speaks

LD211911 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 May 85

[Speech by SRV Communist Party Central Committee Secretary Hoang Tung at ceremony at Moscow's Bolshoy Theater marking start of Vietnamese cultural festival -- live, in Vietnamese with Russian translation provided at intervals]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR minister of culture! Dear Comrades and friends! On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the SRV Ministry of Culture and the USSR Ministry of Culture are jointly organizing this Vietnamese cultural festival in the Soviet Union in accordance with the plan for cultural cooperation signed by the Governments of the SRV and the Soviet Union. This is a living manifestation of the varied and diverse cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. On behalf of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party, the SRV Government, and the Vietnamese Ministry of Culture, permit me to express tremendous gratitude to you for the very great assistance and support from the Soviet Union in our people's struggle for the liberation and construction of the country. The Soviet Union's assistance in the creation of a new socialist culture in our country is extremely valuable. During the Vietnamese cultural festival, we will be very pleased to acquaint the fraternal Soviet people with the new achievements of our culture. The achievements of Vietnamese culture during the last 40 years became particularly apparent after our country was liberated and took the road of building socialism. They are rooted in the correct policy outlined by our Communist Party. This is a combination of the best national cultural achievements and the revolutionary ideology of the present day, Marxism-Leninism. This is the creation of a socialist culture and the formation of a new socialist man.

This is the close harnessing of the cultural and ideological revolution with the construction of socialism and the defense of socialist culture, with a constant raising of the level of the spiritual and cultural life of the working people.

In creating a new socialist culture, we always strive to be guided by the ideals and directives of our great teacher, Vladimir Ilich Lenin, and to apply the advanced experience of Soviet culture, which is the most progressive culture and art of the present day.

Comrades and friends! The diverse relations of cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, which have developed over the decades, have had a huge impact. In recent years, Vietnam and the Soviet Union have concluded many agreements on cultural cooperation, in terms of which a number of artistic ensembles of various kinds, representing the many peoples of the USSR, have visited Vietnam. Their performances acquainted the Vietnamese people with the rich culture and art of a people that successfully triumphed in the greatest battle of the 20th century and ushered in a new era in human society. And now it is marching onwards along the path of building a new society in which the working people are the master. It is creating a real civilization of mankind.

Following the path indicated by the October Revolution, the Vietnamese people won a victory over aggressive forces, won their freedom and independence, and embarked on the construction of socialism in their country. The features of the Vietnamese citizen, who is struggling against foreign aggression and building a new society, which though still young, is full of vitality, are graphically reflected in the new Vietnamese culture. We were touched and inspired by the favorable reactions of our Soviet brothers and sisters to the achievements of Vietnamese culture and art.

Comrades and friends, the Vietnamese cultural festival in the USSR is being held in the capital, Moscow, and in many cities of the union republics. For the first time, all the main types of culture and art in the SRV will be presented to audiences in the country of the great Lenin. We are confident that the events taking place during the festival will be an expression of the sincere gratitude of the Vietnamese party, state and people to the CPSU, the Soviet state and the entire fraternal Soviet people. In his speech to the March CPSU Central Committee Plenum, Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, made the following famous remark: Everything for the sake of man, for the well-being of man. Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Vietnamese Communist Party, has given us the following slogan: Everything for the sake of the socialist motherland, for the sake of the people's happiness. Acting in accordance with these slogans, we are profoundly confident that our countries' culture and art will continue to successfully develop and score more and more vivid successes. Everything for the sake of life, everything for the sake of peace and people's life. This is the motto of our actions. I thank you and wish you good health, dear comrade leaders. I thank you and wish you robust health, dear comrades and friends. [applause]

Demichev Attends Reception

LD222345 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by political observer Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] The USSR Culture Ministry held a reception in honor of those taking part in the Vietnamese culture festival in Moscow. It was attended by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of culture, and Comrade Shauro, head of the Culture Department of the CPSU Central Committee, representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations, and artistic and literary personalities.

CAMBODIA'S BOU THANG DEPARTS MOSCOW 20 MAY

PM221552 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Leaves"]

[Text] The PRK party and government delegation headed by Bou Thang, member of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers, and PRK foreign minister, which took part in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the Soviet people's victory in the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War, left Moscow 20 May.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by G.A. Karavayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee International Department; I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy defense minister; and other officials. Hor Nam Hong, PRK ambassador to the USSR, was among the sendoff party.

DEMICHEV RETURNS FROM CULTURE FESTIVAL IN GDR

PM221556 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR Culture Days"]

[Excerpts] Berlin, 21 May -- All genres of the multinational art of the Land of the Soviets are represented on the posters for the USSR Culture Days in the GDR, which are being held under the sign of the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the German people's liberation.

A delegation headed by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, has been taking part in the USSR Culture Days in the GDR.

Yesterday the Soviet delegation left for home from Dresden. It was seen off at the airport by H.-J. Hoffmann, GDR minister of culture, and V.I. Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR. The delegation returned to Moscow the same day. (Z. Kerner), GDR charge d'affaires in the USSR, was among the welcoming party at the airport.

GDR'S HONECKER RECEIVES KOMSOMOL'S MISHIN

PM221554 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 p 3

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA-TASS report: "Meeting in Berlin"]

[Text] A Komsomol delegation headed by V. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, has arrived in Berlin. It will take part in the work of the 12th Free German Youth [FDJ] congress.

The delegation was received by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State.

During the meeting, V. Mishin described how Komsomol members are preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress and for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students, which will assemble in Moscow beneath slogans of peace, friendship, and anti-imperialist solidarity.

Speaking highly of the fraternal cooperation between the Lenin Komsomol and the FDJ, which is helping to further strengthen the friendship of the USSR and GDR peoples, E. Honecker noted the existence of new opportunities to expand and strengthen ties between the fraternal youth unions.

Leaders of the USSR and GDR youth unions signed a "Program for All-Around Cooperation Between the Komsomol and the FDJ in 1986-90."

RYABOV RECEIVES BULGARIA'S LUKANOV 21 MAY

PM231025 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Meetings, Talks"]

[Text] On 21 May, Ya.P. Ryabov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received A. Lukanov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and had a talk with him on questions of mutual interest.

D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, took part in the talk.

TALKS HELD WITH BULGARIA ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

LD221214 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Soviet-Bulgarian consultations on political problems currently being examined by the United Nations and by other international organizations and conferences have taken place in Sofia. Taking part in the consultations were, on the Soviet side: Petrovskiy, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and, on the Bulgarian side, Kostov, member of the Collegium of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Soviet envoy was received by Ivanov and Gotsev, Bulgaria's deputy foreign ministers.

LIGACHEV MEETS WITH CPCZ SENIOR OFFICIALS

PM220951 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 May 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Interparty Links"]

[Text] In accordance with the plan for interparty links between the CPSU and the CPCZ, M. Beno, CPCZ Central Committee secretary, was in the Soviet Union 13-14 May with a group of senior CPCZ Central Committee officials.

M. Beno was received by Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. There was an exchange of opinions on questions of party organizational work during preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress. Taking part in the conversation, which was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, where Ye. Z. Razumov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department, and M. Zavadil, CSSR ambassador to the USSR.

The Czechoslovak comrades had meetings and conversations at the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department and at the party committee of Moscow's "Krasnyy Proletariy" Machine Tool Building Plant.

CPCZ PLENUM NOMINATES HUSAK FOR PRESIDENT

PM221558 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Joint Candidate"]

[Text] Prague, 21 May -- A routine CPCZ Central Committee plenum has been held here. The plenum examined the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium proposal on the elections for president of the CSSR.

On behalf of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, L. Strougal, CSSR premier, proposed that G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, be nominated as candidate for the post of CSSR president. He stressed that the country's president is a symbol of the unity of the Czech and Slovak peoples, which is based on the commonality of the interests and goals of the working class, the cooperativized peasantry, and the socialist intelligentsia. The head of state embodies the people's will to continue traveling the road of socialist creation, the road of developing the friendship, alliance, and cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist countries.

The plenum instructed the CSSR National Front Central Committee to propose that the CSSR Federal Assembly elect G. Husak to the post of CSSR president as the joint candidate of the CPCZ and the CSSR National Front.

In conclusion, G. Husak spoke at the plenum. He stressed that the party will continue to be guided in all areas of its activity by the Leninist principles of collectiveness and personal responsibility.

HUSAK ANTHOLOGY ON USSR RELATIONS PUBLISHED

PM221131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Indestructible Alliance"]

[Text] Prague, 20 May -- "On Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship, Alliance, and Cooperation" is the title of a book by G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the CSSR, which has been published in Prague. The book contains selected speeches and articles by the CSSR leader that trace the history of the Czechoslovak people's national liberation struggle and describe the CSSR working people's efforts to build a developed socialist society, the importance to Czechoslovakia of the experience of the CPSU and Soviet state in building a new society, and the two countries' joint struggle for peace. The book's main theme is the indestructible Soviet-Czechoslovak alliance, cooperation, and close collaboration in the struggle for a bright future for all mankind.

Friendship with the Soviet Union is the key direction of the CPCZ' multifaceted activity, Academician Z. Snitil, member of the CPCZ Central Committee and director of the CPCZ Central Committee Institute of Marxism-Leninism, stressed. The CSSR working people see cooperation with the Land of the Soviets as a reliable basis for peaceful, constructive life and a guarantee of their motherland's independence and security. All this has been graphically reflected in Comrade G. Husak's book. This anthology, Z. Snitil noted, serves the cause of the further development of the fraternal friendship between our peoples, the friendship born in the joint struggle against Hitler's fascism and based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

KOMAREV, SFRY'S BOJANIC DISCUSS TRADE PROTOCOL

LD230857 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1900 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] A talk was held today between Nikolay Komarev, the USSR first deputy foreign trade minister, and Milenko Bojanic, the Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign trade. They discussed issues concerning the realization of the 1985 protocol on commodity exchange between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and the prospects for further expanding Soviet-Yugoslav trade.

NURIYEV, SFRY'S SREBRIC DISCUSS COOPERATION

LD230854 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1600 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Ziya Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received Borisav Srebric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, with whom he discussed the further promotion of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia in the agro-industrial complex. The talks, which were held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, were also attended by Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador in the Soviet Union.

PZPR PLENUM VIEWS INTELLIGENTSIA, PACT EXTENSION

PM221822 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "PZPR Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Warsaw, 15 May -- A PZPR Central Committee plenum has ended here. It listened to and discussed a PZPR Central Committee Politburo report on "The Intelligentsia's Role and Tasks in the Socialist Development of Poland."

The information report points out that the plenum adopted a corresponding resolution and also a statement in connection with the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Warsaw Pact. The PZPR Central Committee, the statement says, expressed the profound conviction that the decision by the Warsaw Pact countries' top party and state figures to extend the term of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance signed in Warsaw on 14 May 1955 will serve the cause of peace, European security, and the inviolability of Poland's borders. It will help strengthen allied cooperation among the Warsaw Pact states and the unity of the socialist community countries.

The closing speech at the plenum was delivered by W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

CEAUSESCU ADDRESSES ROMANIAN YOUTH CONGRESS

PM2 30959 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 p 3

[TASS report: "Conference Begins Work"]

[Text] The 12th Congress of the Romanian Communist Youth Union [UTC] has started work in Bucharest. The congress agenda includes the UTC Central Committee report on the work during the reporting period and on young people's tasks to fulfill the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress, the UTC's tasks in the communist education of the younger generation, changes in the UTC rules, and elections to the UTC Central Committee and the Central Auditing Commission. The congress is being attended by emissaries of other countries' youth organizations, including a Komsomol delegation led by N. Dolgushkin, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee.

Addressing the congress, N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP and president of Romania, noted the great contribution of young people to the country's development in the years since Romania's liberation from the fascist yoke. Romania, he stressed, welcomes the USSR's decision announced by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev to exercise a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and to halt the implementation of other countermeasures in Europe. Romania expects corresponding decisions from the U.S. side.

The RCP general secretary voiced the conviction that the almost 4-million-strong detachment of the UTC will take an active part in fulfilling the program to build a developed socialist society and make the transition to building communism. He called on UTC members to foster in young people a conscientious attitude to labor, to resolutely rebuff any manifestations of anarchy and indiscipline, and to strengthen solidarity and friendship with young people throughout the world.

Nicu Ceausescu, first secretary of the UTC Central Committee, delivered a report on the activity of the Romanian UTC during the reporting period.

Yesterday, the Komsomol delegation led by N. Dolgushkin, secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, which is taking part in the work of the 12th UTC Congress being held in Bucharest, met with Nicu Ceausescu, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the UTC Central Committee.

During the conversation, a positive appraisal of the multifaceted cooperation between the two countries' youth organizations was given and the desire to further develop this cooperation and improve its forms was expressed. Special attention was paid to the preparations for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow. The mutual opinion was expressed that the festival will help to rally the world's young people in the struggle for peace and against the forces of reaction, which are striving to undermine the democratic youth movement.

ITALIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS CONCLUDE VISIT

Meets With Chervov, Karpov

PM231024 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] A conversation took place 21 May between Colonel General N.F. Chervov, chief of a a USSR Armed Forces General Staff directorate, V.P. Karpov, special envoy of the USSR Foreign Ministry, and a group of Italian parliamentarians headed by A. Ruffini, chairman of the lower house Defense Committee.

The guests paid a visit to the V.I. Lenin Study and Apartment Museum in the Kremlin.

End Visit 22 May

LD222354 Moscow International Service in Italian 1700 GMT 22 May 85

[Excerpts] The visit to the USSR by a group of Italian parliamentarians led by Attillio Ruffini, president of the Chamber of Deputies Defense Committee, ended today.

The delegation held an exchange of views on the most important current problems: consolidating confidence, returning to detente in Europe, and limiting the arms race. Problems concerning Soviet-Italian relations and the extension of contacts between parliamentarians from the two countries with a view to strengthening mutual understanding between the Soviet and Italian peoples and peace on the European Continent were also discussed.

In an interview with one of our journalists, Ruffini positively assessed the results of the visit, noting that the frank exchange of views showed that the Soviet Union has goodwill and the aspiration to seek agreements.

AKHROMEYEV ACTIVITIES IN FINLAND REPORTED

PM221815 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 3

[TASS reports under the general heading "Visit to Finland"]

[Text] Helsinki, 21 May -- Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, who is in Finland, yesterday called on Finnish Defense Minister V. Pihlajamaki. He also had a conversation with General J. Valtanen, commander in chief of the Finnish Defense Forces.

The Soviet military leader laid a wreath at the tomb of Finnish President J.K. Paasikivi, who made a great contribution to the development of friendly relations between Finland and the Soviet Union.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev visited the V.I. Lenin Apartment Museum in Helsinki's Hakaniemi Square and placed flowers by the memorial plaque on the building where the leader of the Russian and world proletariat lived in fall 1917.

Helsinki, 21 May -- Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, who is making an official visit to Finland, has visited a chasseur brigade and the Turku naval base. He familiarized himself with combat training and with personnel's life and daily activity.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev laid flowers by the V.I. Lenin Monument in Turku.

SOVIET-FRENCH SEMINAR ON BILATERAL TRADE HELD

LD222353 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Moscow, 22 May (TASS) -- A Soviet-French seminar on questions of bilateral trade and economic cooperation took place here today. Taking part in the seminar, which was organized by the USSR Chamber of Trade and Industry and the French bank Credit Lyonnais, were leading workers from Soviet ministries, departments, and foreign trade associations, as well as staff from the French Embassy in the Soviet Union and more than 100 representatives of French business circles.

Stepan Sitaryan, deputy chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee, spoke about plans that are being worked out for developing the Soviet economy up to the year 2000 in which the focus of attention will be on the technical modernization of all branches of the USSR's national economy.

He emphasized that the Soviet Union intends to continue to develop mutually advantageous trade and economic links with Western countries, including France.

From 1981-1984, Stepan Sitaryan reported, the volume of mutual trade between the Soviet Union and France more than doubled by comparison with the preceding period and amounted to R20 billion. French firms took part and are continuing to take part in carrying out a number of major projects in the energy, chemical, petrochemical, and other industries.

In his speech Viktor Ivanov, minister of foreign trade of the USSR, named specific spheres for developing Soviet-French trade and economic cooperation. French firms, he said, could receive Soviet orders for deliveries of machinery and equipment for the modernization of enterprises in the USSR light and food industries and for constructing new chemical and petrochemical works in the Soviet Union. However, for this to be achieved they need to increase the competitiveness of their proposals.

Viktor Ivanov also noted the need to expand the range of Soviet exports to France. Currently they are mainly deliveries of energy carriers [energonositeli].

The importance of perfecting currency and financial relations to activate bilateral trade and economic links was underlined by Yevgeniy Kuzkin, deputy chairman of the board of the USSR Foreign Trade Bank.

Credit Lyonnais Chairman Jean Deflassieux said that favorable opportunities exist for developing business links between France and the USSR. He gave an assurance that French firms attending the seminar will make all efforts to realize these possibilities.

FRG ATTITUDE TOWARD SDI PARTICIPATION EXAMINED

LD221803 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 22 May 85

["Bonn's Space Bridge -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 22 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Aleksey Grigoryev:

There is a cunning little colloquialism in the German. The word is "jein" which is a hybrid of "ja" and "nein", yes and no. Lately, it has been used fairly frequently in the diplomatic vocabulary of official Bonn.

The point at issue is whether the Federal Republic of Germany will join Reagan's notoriously known "Strategic Defense Initiative" [SDI] which Washington is trying to pass off as a "research program", whether giant arms manufacturing concerns of the Ruhr region and Bavaria will be involved in full in preparations for "star wars". Back on April 18 the West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said in the Bundestag: "From our point of view the U.S. research program is justified, it is politically necessary and it comes in line with the security interests of the West". This means -- yes.

Peter Boenisch, official spokesman for the West German Government, reaffirmed that at a meeting with newsmen right after Chancellor Kohl and President Reagan met for the first time during the latter's recent visit to the F.R.G. However, it was no other than Boenisch who told newsmen, and again in Bonn: "Reports that Helmut Kohl allegedly gave President Reagan consent to the participation in research within the framework of the 'Strategic Defense Initiative' are not correct". The answer is no?

And still there is no trace of ambiguity here. Kohl assured Reagan that the Federal Republic of Germany would participate in the "star wars" program, while his pronouncements that "Bonn advocates "a common concept with other Western European partners" [quotation marks as received] do not mean in the least any pre-condition for West Germany's consent to take part in Reagan's initiative, the well-informed West German magazine, DER SPIEGEL, writes.

It does not take much to see behind Kohl's stance on that matter the payment for the gift served to him in Bitburg: The blasphemous ceremony of laying wreaths on the graves of members of Waffen SS was devised to boost nationalism and revanchism which have always been an essential part of political capital of Kohl's party -- the CDU. However, the ruling quarters of the Federal Republic of Germany have somewhat more important stimuli and many more far-reaching plans linked with the participation in getting ready for "star wars". An apt and clear remark on that matter came from President Francois Mitterrand of France who stressed that the temptation of taking part in that program was explained by the possibility for the F.R.G. to circumvent the restrictions which were a consequence of the Second World War.

It is common knowledge that the only such restriction as far as the F.R.G. is concerned covers possession of nuclear weapons. By its recent decisions the Western European Union permitted Bonn to produce strategic bombers, combat ships, missiles and other types of modern military hardware. There is no 'green light' only on the road toward nuclear weapons. But this road may well pass through the space bridge. And as soon as the very first step is made along it, the cunning word, "jein", and other diplomatic tricks will be instantaneously discarded.

SOVIET TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISITS FRG

PM211455 Moscow TRUD in Russian 18 May 85 p 3

[Own correspondent A. Antsiferov dispatch: "Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] Bonn, 17 May -- A delegation of Soviet trade unionists headed by B.S. Andreyev, chairman of the Leningrad Oblast Trade Union Council, has visited the FRG at the invitation of the northern region of the German Trade Union Federation. The Soviet working people's envoys visited Hamburg, Luebeck, Bremen, and Stade, toured a plant of the "Kloeckner" concern, and familiarized themselves with the work of the port of Hamburg.

The meetings and conversations with representatives of the public and trade union circles invariably stressed the importance of developing trade union contacts for strengthening confidence and mutual understanding between the two countries' working people. The Soviet trade union delegation's visit to the FRG, which took place at the time when the entire world public was marking the 40th anniversary of the rout of fascism, served the cause of developing the ties of partnership between Hamburg and Leningrad and cooperations between West German and Soviet working people and trade unions.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION TALKS HELD WITH GREECE

PM221107 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Correspondent G. Shakhunyan dispatch: "Greece: Developing Mutually Beneficial Cooperation"]

[Text] Athens -- The fourth session of the Soviet-Greek Joint Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Industrial Cooperation has completed its work in Athens. The meeting's participants discussed the results of the developing cooperation since the previous session and the prospects for developing mutually beneficial ties between the two countries.

The sides signed a document which notes with satisfaction the successful expansion of trade and economic relations and the fulfillment of accords secured earlier as a result of visits to Greece by N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and to the USSR by Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou.

The session paid special attention to questions connected with the successful completion of talks on a number of major projects; namely, the construction in Greece, with Soviet assistance, of an alumina plant, a stainless-steel plant, a gas pipeline, and other installations.

The sides agreed on the opening of an office in Athens for the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and the opening of an office in Moscow for the Hellenic Organization of Small-and-Medium-Sized Enterprises and Handicrafts, EOMMEX, as well as AGREX, the Agricultural Products Export Company, which will represent Greek exporters' interests in the USSR.

PROTOCOL ON SPORTS EXCHANGE SIGNED WITH GREECE

LD172233 Moscow TASS in English 2043 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- A protocol on sports exchange between the two countries for 1985-1986 was signed in Moscow today by the Deputy Chairman of the USSR Sports Committee Nikolay Rusak and the special counsellor of the General Secretariat for Sports of Greece Kostas Grammatikopoulos.

"This document opens up new prospects in sports cooperation between our countries. It is important not only for sports and sportsmen, but, in the first place, for the expansion of cultural ties in general and for the consolidation of peace, friendship and mutual understanding between the Greek and Soviet people", K. Grammatikopoulos said.

Grammatikopoulos described the state of the bilateral sports contacts as rather fruitful and expressed the wish to deepen relations in the sphere of the sports science and methods of coaching, as well as the theory and practice of mass physical culture. Following the experience of the Soviet Union, Greece is determined today to develop sports for the people on a large scale.

Touching upon problems of the international sports and Olympic movement, the head of the Greek delegation stressed that, in his opinion, the main task today is to more actively wage the struggle against commercialism and professionalism in sports and against doping because doping practices spell death for the Olympic ideals.

The beginning of bilateral ties between sports organizations of the USSR and Greece was laid nine years ago. Up till recently a protocol signed in May 1983 was in effect. In accordance with the protocol, the two countries exchanged 31 delegations on various sports.

The plan of the sport exchange for 1985 envisages competitions in cycling, Greco-Roman wrestling, basketball, athletics, chess, boxing, handball, acrobatics and rhythmic gymnastics. It also provides for the exchange of experience between coaches and specialists, as well as the organization of joint training sessions and other actitivies. In the past months of the current year the two countries have already exchanged five delegations: a Greek swimming team came to the USSR, and Soviet track-and-field athletes, cyclists, junior basketball-players and Greco-Roman wrestlers took part in sports competitions in Greece.

CPSU DELEGATION, AKEL ISSUED JOINT STATEMENT

NC161116 Nicosia Domestic Service in Greek 1030 GMT 16 May 85

[Text] In a joint statement on the talks in Nicosia between AKEL [Restorative Party of the Working People] and CPSU delegations, the two sides reiterate Soviet support of the unity, independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and nonaligned character of the Republic of Cyprus, as well as Soviet support for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the abolition of foreign bases. The joint statement also stresses Soviet support for the UN secretary general's efforts toward a viable and just solution of the Cyprus issue through negotiations between the two communities on the basis of UN resolutions.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM GREETS IRISH PRESIDENT

LD170941 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 17 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 17 TASS -- The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has sent President Patrick John Hillery of Ireland a telegram conveying heart-felt congratulations and good wishes to him and to the friendly Irish people on the occasion of the country's national holiday.

In a reply telegram the president of Ireland expressed heart-felt gratitude for the congratulations and, for his part, conveyed good wishes to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

PONOMAREV, BRUTENTS MEET PALESTINE CP DELEGATION

LD230235 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A meeting took place today at the CPSU Central Committee between Comrade Ponomarev [position not attributed] and Comrade Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, on the one hand and a delegation from the Palestine Communist Party headed by Comrade al-Sha'b, member of the Political Bureau of the party's Central Committee, on the other hand. The unfailing solidarity of the Soviet Union with the Palestinian people's courageous struggle for their lawful national rights and for the establishment of an independent state was affirmed at the meeting. Both sides stressed the necessity for an urgent renewal of the unity and cohesion of the Palestinian resistance movement on the fundamental basis of its close cooperation with the anti-imperialist forces of the Arab world.

TRADE PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH EGYPT 20 MAY

PM221550 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Trade Protocol"]

[Text] A protocol on trade between the USSR and Egypt for 1985 envisaging an increase in reciprocal trade between the two countries this year was signed in Moscow 20 May.

KUNA: ARAB DELEGATION TO VISIT MOSCOW 27 MAY

LD221319 Kuwait KUNA in English 1210 GMT 22 May 85

[By Salih Nazal]

[Excerpts] Kuwait, May 22 (KUNA) -- Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad announced Wednesday [22 May] that he will take part in the seven-man Arab committee's Moscow visit scheduled for next week.

Sheikh Sabah pointed out that the committee's schedule of visits to capitals of the five Security Council permanent members was approved during the committee meetings and Arab foreign ministers conferences.

Meanwhile, the Iraqi envoy told KUNA that he informed Sheikh Sabah that Iraq's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz will take part in the committee's visit to the Soviet Union to begin Monday [27 May] and expressed hopes that the members will be met with the required response from Soviet officials.

The ministerial committee is scheduled to meet with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Premier Nikolay Tikhonov and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko in a bid to urge the Soviet Union to exert serious efforts to help end the Iraqi-Iranian armed dispute.

The committee groups foreign ministers of Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, the Yemen Arab Republic, Tunisia and Morocco in addition to the Arab League secretary general.

The date of its visit to Washington has not yet been decided on.

CONTINUING REACTION TO RADIO MARTI OPERATION

Moscow TV Report

LD230155 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast -- S. Kozlenko video report]

[Text] By decision of the U.S. Government, an anti-Cuban radio station has begun subversive broadcasts. This radio station is similar to the slanderous station Radio Liberty, but differs in that it broadcasts in the medium-wave band, contrary to all international laws, which ban narrowly beamed broadcasts in the medium-wave band against another country without the prior notification and consent of its government.

Justified indignation has been aroused among the public by the use of the name of the Cuban poet and revolutionary Jose Marti, a name sacred to every Cuban. The broadcasts will be conducted from studios in Washington via relays on Key West, small islands near Cuba. The initial power of the tranmsitters is 50,000 watts. Moreover, the broadcasts will be repeated on the shortwave, and the daily volume of broadcasting against Cuba will total 14 hours.

As the statement by the Cuban Government says, the date 20 May was not chosen for the startup of broadcasting by Radio Marti just by coincidence. It is a shameful and sad date, the date of the military occupation of Cuba by the United States. The Clark amendment was introduced into the Cuban Constitution, and this permitted U.S. troops to be brought onto the island at any time. The statement says that for over 20 years the Cuban people have been rebuffing aggressive attacks and all types of threats from the United States. Without a doubt the present administration just know that Cuba will continue to rebuff all intrigues to the extent necessary.

Journalist Group's Reponse

LD230547 Moscow TASS in English 0530 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Quito May 23 TASS -- The launching of the Radio Marti propaganda service is added evidence of the Reagan administration's desire to subordinate Latin American countries to American influence, the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) said in a statement issued here. The principles of the journalists' professional ethics, said the statement signed by IOJ leaders on a visit to Ecuador, call for respect for the international community, democratic institutions and public morals. This is why all democratic mass media workers should strongly condemn the American Administration's provocative move. The statement said it is vile and dishonest to use the name of the great Cuban and Latin American patriot to call a radio service broadcasting slanders and smears.

The IOJ leaders called on all mass media workers to strengthen solidarity with Cuba and support the Cuban journalists and people in the face of yet another agggession by American imperialists.

Chilean CP Leader's Comments

PY210055 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2000 GMT 21 May 85

["Volodia Comments" by Volodia Teitelboim, member of the Chilean Communist Party Political Commission]

[Excerpts] Dear fellow countrymen, May 20 is the sad anniversary of Cuba's thwarted independence from Spain, of its military occupation by the new empire, the United States, and of the establishment on that island of a virtual Yankee colony under a constitutional amendment that granted Washington the right to interfere with that country at will. This nefarious date, which epitomizes the dark desire to trample over the freedom of Cuba and the ambition to exert tutelage over Latin America as a whole, has been chosen to launch radio broadcasts beamed at the first socialist country in the hemisphere on orders from the U.S. Government.

The infamous anniversary is being used to unleash yet another attack against decency, truth, and historical dignity by deceptively naming the station responsible for these seditious broadcasts after Jose Marti, whose life was devoted to freeing it from all yokes, and who demonstrated his own sincerity by dying fighting for freedom.

The name of the person who had sounded the warning more than anyone else against the enslaving plans of the monster, which he knew only too well, having lived under its entrails for many years, is the least appropriate for an endeavor against which Marti would have risen up with all the power of his freedom-seeking spirit.

This event has awakened feelings of strong indignation and rejection throughout Latin America. Many analysts of U.S. politics are wondering about the reasons for currently enacting the old threat to unleash a radio war against Cuba by broadcasting a daily quota of lies and officially approved distortions for alleged state reasons at the expense of the taxpayers, using funds obtained from the looting of Latin America and the Third World. The answer to this question and the bad choice of dates for starting the broadcasts can only be explained as being symptomatic of the acute crisis that U.S. foreign policy has been going through these last few months, a policy fraught with blunders and mistakes.

Washington's language describing the heroic island has never been lacking in oaths, offences, threats, blackmail, and unscrupulous deceptions. Twenty six years are more than enough to show that [words indistinct] will not scare the Cuba of Marti and Fidel Castro. The isle of dignity will remain a diligent guardian of Latin America's fate. Anyone who thinks that it will kowtow is mistaken. The winds of history will soon turn the radio war against Cuba against those who have foolishly unleashed it. See you later, dear fellow countrymen.

SOLOMENTSEV ADDRESSES HAVANA FRIENDSHIP RALLY

PM221339 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 85 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "A Striking Demonstration of Friendship"]

[Text] Havana, 15 May -- The Cuban-Soviet mass friendship rally in Havana developed into a striking demonstration of the indestructible fraternal ties between the USSR and Cuba.

It was attended by leading production workers, socialist competition winners, and numerous members of the public. The presidium comprised Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) Central Committee and president of the Republic's Councils of State and Ministers, other Cuban leaders, and M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, who is here at the invitation of the PCC and Republic's Council of State to attend the celebrations devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and 25th anniversary of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Cuba.

The rally was addressed by M.S. Solomentsev, who was warmly greeted by those present. On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet Government and on behalf of the millions of Soviet people, he conveyed ardent, fraternal greetings to the Cuban people.

We are sincerely moved, M.S. Solomentsev said, by the warm reception we have been given on Cuban soil and by the kind words addressed to the CPSU and the entire Soviet people. Here, on the isle of freedom, you get a particularly acute sense of the great force of revolutionary transformations, selfless labor, and profound patriotism. I can definitely say that every Soviet family and every labor collective knows Cuba as the most advanced and just society in Latin America and respects its courageous people and valiant internationalist fighters.

A distinctive feature of the Cuban people is their feel for everything new, their heartfelt response to human suffering, and intolerance of all forms of class exploitation and national oppression.

The heroic storming of the Moncada Barracks by valiant young people headed by Fidel Castro will remain forever in the annals of the revolutionary movement. This exploit inspired the Cuban people to new national liberation actions and made them confident of victory over the tyrannical regime, over the imperialist monopolies' domination. The spirit of Moncada is firmly established in Cubans' consciousness as an example of selflessness and steadfastness, as an example of a bold challenge to the superior forces of reaction.

The legendary landing from the schooner Granma and the partisan epic in the mountains of the Sierra Maestra and all over Cuba will remain in the revolutionary annals forever. The victory of the revolution on 1 January 1959 laid the foundation for a new era in the country's history and placed Cuba in the vanguard of the national liberation movement in the Latin American continent. It inspired the Cuban people to profound socioeconomic transformations and to hard work to build a new society.

The people will always remember the crushing rebuff the Cuban fighters delivered to the imperialist interventionists on Playa Giron in April 1961. It was then that Fidel Castro proclaimed that Cuba was fighting for its freedom and independence beneath the banner of socialism. Those unforgettable days demonstrated to the whole world the unbending steadfastness of your people, their close cohesion around their revolutionary vanguard, and their great love of the motherland and of freedom.

As we reflect on Cuba's history, we pay a profound tribute to its remarkable revolutionary traditions and its consistent solidarity with the anticolonial and anti-imperialist struggle in all parts of the world. Fraternal assistance to Angola and Ethiopia, selfless support for the Arab peoples, and many other acts of internationalism have earned the Cubans the profound respect of all who are fighting for freedom, independence, and social progress.

Havana and Moscow are remote from one another. However, Soviet peole and Cubans are brought close together by common socialist ideals. We are solidly united by internationalism, the mighty force of fraternal friendship of the socialist community countries. We are fighting together against the imperialist policy of aggression and the arms race and for peace and free development for the peoples.

Soviet-Cuban cooperation has been fruitfully developing for more than 25 years. Having started from scratch, it now embraces a wide range of ties in all spheres of life. In the most diverse sectors of industry, agriculture, science, and technology the Soviet Union, Cuba, and the other fraternal countries are carrying out a comprehensive program of economic integration. Our joint labor and comradely collaboration are a powerful lever of social progress.

We are proud of the industrial facilities that have become genuine symbols of Soviet-Cuban friendship: the "Jose Marti" Metallurgical Combine, the engineering plant in Santa Clara, the sugar cane harvester combine named for the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in Holguin, the "Maximo Gomes" Thermal Power Station in Mariel, the "Antonio Maceo" Thermal Power Station near Santiago de Cuba, and the Celia Sanchez Textile Combine. Soviet specialists are working side by side with Cubans on the construction of major enterprises such as the "Juragua" nuclear power station, the nickel plant in Punta Gorda, an oil refinery, and other enterprises.

Last year a long-term program was signed for the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Cuba for the period up to the year 2000. It opens up even wider horizons for the implementation of socialist division of labor and further growth of our countries' economic potential.

The complexion of the Cuban national economy fundamentally changed. Modern industrial sectors, such as machine building, radioelectronics, chemical production, and shipbuilding have been set up in Cuba. Previously the symbol of Cuba was a sharp knife, the machete. Now it is the powerful sugar cane harvesting combine which does the work of hundreds of macheteros. Comprehensive mechanization of agricultural operations, new enterprises, schools, hospitals, housing, and cultural and sports centers -- all this is due to the inspired labor of a people who have cast off the fetters of exploitation and oppression.

The Cuban people are gaining their labor victories in conditions of interminable imperialist threats, in conditions of constant combat readiness. U.S. imperialism is doing everything possible to hamper our peaceful, creative labor.

We are well aware of the complex foreign policy situation in which you comrades are building a new society. Allow me to express from this platform the Soviet people's fraternal solidarity with the heroic Cuban people.

A worthy member of the great socialist community, Cuba has loyal and reliable friends. We are convinced that the Cuban revolution will continue to bring new victories for socialism.

We are meeting with you at an important time of celebration. The whole of progressive mankind is extensively celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and the end of the bloodiest and most devastating war in history. Soviet people are deeply grateful to the Cuban people for their genuine fraternity and international solidarity, for sharing with us the sorrow of the immense losses and the joy of victory.

On the battlefields of the Great Patriotic War the Soviet Army routed the aggressor's hordes that had perfidiously attacked our country. The Soviet people honorably endured the most difficult ordeal in their history. "All for the front, all for victory!" -- this was the slogan by which Soviet people lived, fought, and toiled. It certainly was a national war.

Despite enormous numbers of casualties and massive destruction, the Soviet Union came out of it even stronger and even more convinced that the ideas of Marxism-Leninism are correct. It was not only the Army that was victorious in that war. The Soviet social system was victorious, the Soviet economy was victorious, and Marxist-Leninist ideology was victorious. The indestructible unity of party and people, workers, peasants, and intelligentsia, and all the country's nations and ethnic groups, the valor of the Soviet troops and the selflessness of working people in the rear -- that was the insuperable force that ensured victory for us.

Mankind is supposed to learn from the grim experience of the last war. The chief lesson is that you have to fight against war before it starts. The peoples of the world must maintain a high degree of vigilance and indefatigably expose the intrigues of the forces of imperialism and reaction who are sowing enmity and distrust and are opposing social progress. The lessons of World War II are a stern warning to those who are spreading the arms race, pushing the world toward military catastrophe, and planning to establish world hegemony.

The socialist countries are not threatening anyone. The class opponent's efforts to accuse socialism of the notorious "export of revolution" are entirely without substance. At the same time, the socialist countries are fully resolved to prevent the export of counterrevolution.

The Warsaw Pact, which celebrated its 30th anniversary recently, is of special significance in counteracting imperialism's threats. The extension of the Warsaw Pact for a further term, unanimously approved by all its participants, is a confirmation of its constructive role as an instrument of peace and of the protection of socialist gains.

Aware of their responsibility for the fate of peace, the Soviet Union and the other fraternal countries are fully resolved to prevent the destruction of the strategic military balance between the USSR and the United States and between the Warsaw Pact and NATO. Any attempt to talk to us in the language of force and threats is bound to fail. It is our profound belief that the historical dispute between the different social systems can only be resolved by peaceful means.

Guided by the Leninist principles of peaceful coexistence, the Soviet Union is consistently conducting a peace-loving foreign policy. It is taking into account the legitimate interests of all the peoples and is displaying realism in international affairs. It firmly and consistently advocates the cessation of the arms race on land, in the water, and in the air and wants to prevent it from spreading to space.

We attach special significance to relations with the United States as a very important factor in the normalization and stabilization of the international situation. "In order to bring about a real improvement in relations between the USSR and the United States," M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, stressed "political will is needed on the part of the leaders of these countries. On the Soviet side, such a will exists."

However, reciprocal political will has yet to be manifested by the U.S. Administration. To put it bluntly, this behavior by Washington is at odds with the fundamental interests of peace and the peoples' security.

We know, comrades, how difficult the economic situation is in many Latin American countries at the moment. What heavy and inexorable pressure the exploitative, predatory policy of the transnational corporations is exerting on the Latin American peoples. All their juices are being squeezed out of them by the constantly increasing foreign debt, payment of massive interest, and the sharp drop in foreign trade revenue. All this is plunging the Latin American states into a profound socioeconomic crisis than is also fraught with political upheavals.

There is a growing menace in the situation in Central America, where the United States is carrying out gross interference in the peoples' internal affairs. After the supression of freedom in Grenada, the escalation of Washington's hostile actions against Nicaragua is particularly provocative. The Reagan administration's decision to impose an economic blockade on Nicaragua was yet another step on this dangerous path.

Soviet people categorically reject the policy of aggression and interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs and the policy of state terrorism that is being conducted against the country. These actions are fraught with grave consequences for the development of the international situation as a whole and must be stopped. From this platform, the speaker stressed, I want to say in all seriousness that the Soviet Union fully supports Nicaragua's just cause and resolutely opposes imperialist diktat and crude pressure!

The only possible way to solve the problems that exist in Central America is talks between the relevant states. This is what Nicaragua is proposing. This is what Cuba and the other countries of Latin America are supporting.

Working people of the Soviet Union, the working class, kolkhoz peasantry, and people's intelligentsia are engaged in peaceful, creative labor. The strategy for the country's economic and social development, elaborated by the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, is being successfully implemented. Our party sees the steady improvement of the economy, Soviet people's well-being, and the strengthening of the country's defense capability as a very important international task.

At the moment, Communists and all Soviet people, inspired by the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum, are preparing a fitting greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress. It will be an event of tremendous political significance. The Communist Party is setting goals for the working people of an increasingly higher order. It has set a course toward intensifying production, improving efficiency, and fully and comprehensively revealing the potential of the socialist planned economy. The party is consistenly and persistently pursuing a line toward the further improvement of the economic mechanism, the broadening of independence, and enhancement of labor collectives' responsibility for final production results. Measures are being implemented aimed at the wide involvement of working people in running the economy and the state, increasing their initiative, and strengthening creative discipline and order.

The CPSU is consistently strengthening socialist society's democratic institutions and creating all the conditions for increasing the working masses' social creativity.

A vast amount of purposeful ideological and mass political work is being done to instill in every Soviet citizen a high awareness of civic duty, responsibility for affairs in society and in the collective, patriotism, and socialist internationalism. Developed socialism really does provide working people with genuine rights and freedom, makes the people's life better and fuller, and steadily improves the Soviet people's material and cultural living standards. All for man, all for the good of man; the Communist Party is consistently putting its fundamental slogan into practice.

We cannot conceive of the further improvement of the Soviet economy, science, and culture without comprehensive, close collaboration with the fraternal countries of the socialist community. We are united by the inspirational force of socialist internationalism and the immortal ideas of Marx and Lenin.

In conclusion, M.S. Solomentsev wished everyone new successes in socialist building on Cuban soil. The Soviet people always have been, are, and will continue to be loyal friends and comrades-in-arms of the Cuban people, he stressed.

The rally was also addressed by Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee. Pointing out that this year the whole of progressive mankind is celebrating the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, he recalled the history of the solidarity of the leading strata of the Cuban working class with the October Revolution and Soviet power that emerged from the wreckage of tsarist autocracy. The first mass rally of Cuban working people in honor of Great October was held in a Havana theater in May 1918. It was at that time that the "committee in support of Red Russia" sent Cuban workers' first donations to Moscow.

The death of V.I. Lenin, the speaker said, shook the progressive Cuban forces. Many enterprises went into mourning. An outstanding example of respect for the memory of the leader of the world proletariat was that unforgettable moment when the mayor of Regla, Havana Province, urged its inhabitants to pay tribute to the memory of the great leader by observing two minutes' silence and marching to a nearby hill. There they planted an olive tree perpetuating the friendship between the Cuban and Soviet peoples. That was how Lenin Hill came into being. Later it became the arena of our proletariat's struggle against exploitation and neocolonialism.

The Cuban people's solidarity with the Soviet people. J. Risquet stressed, strengthened even further when the fascist hordes perfidiously invaded USSR territory. During the Great Patriotic War the Cuban working class, led by the Communists, performed important activities in support of the Soviet people's struggle. Under pressure from the broad movement of solidarity with the Soviet Union, diplomatic relations were established between Cuba and the Soviet Union in 1942.

Soon after the victory of our revolution on 10 January 1959, 2 days after Commander in Chief F. Castro, who had led the victorious rebel army, arrived in Havana, there was an unforgettable gesture of solidarity, the Soviet Union's official recognition of the Cuban revolutionary government. One year later, on 8 May, diplomatic relations, which had been broken off as a result of the Batista dictatorship's pro-imperialist actions, were re-established. This created the foundation for a new and the most fruitful stage of relations between the two countries and peoples. The victory of the Cuban revolution marked the beginning of the development of qualitatively new relations between the USSR and Cuba.

When the United States threw all its might against our country, its every aggressive economic, political or military step was countered by the Soviet Union's prompt and firm support, as well as by our people's indestructible readiness to struggle.

During these 2 and 1/2 decades our peoples have marched side by side, united by the goals and tasks of socialist building. They have created a new and previously unknown type of relations between a great power and a small country which are characterized by mutual respect and trust, total sovereignty and generous and selfless cooperation on the part of the USSR.

The first official visit to the Soviet Union by Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of our party's Central Committee, in May 1963 was an important event in our relations. Our lasting ties with the Soviet people, party, government, and Armed Forces have strengthened over 25 years, have become indissoluble, and are now one of the chief foundations of our revolution and of the successes of socialist building in our country.

The celebration of the 25th anniversary of the reestablishment of relations between the USSR and Cuba, the speaker said, has developed into a real celebration of Cuban's gratitude to the Soviet Union, an expression of our most ardent feelings of admiration and appreciation of the motherland of Lenin. For our people, the first to accomplish a socialist revolution in the Western Hemisphere, this sovereign step 25 years ago meant an alliance with the world's first proletarian revolution. It made mankind's supreme aspirations a reality and provided boundless scope for accomplishments in the sphere of science and technology, a revolution founded on the all-time leading ideology of Marxism-Leninism, which is our common ideology.

In the political plane, the CPSU's and PCC's views coincide completely on the basic questions of socialist building and the international situation. As for the main problem confronting mankind, the problem of war and peace, we firmly support the USSR's efforts to curb the nuclear arms race on earth, prevent the United States from spreading it to space, and totally eliminate nuclear arms.

In the last 10 years, our trade has increased nearly 5 times over. While the energy crisis and high oil prices are disrupting the economies of the developing countries that do not have their own oil and are making them unstable, the Soviet Union is ensuring steady supplies of oil and its derivatives to Cuba in the required quantities at moderate prices. As a result of the USSR's economic assistance and on the basis of advanced technology, sectors have appeared in the past 25 years that were previously unknown to our economy. One very important chapter in our cooperation is the USSR's participation in the training of cadres for all spheres of Cuba's development. During this period, tens of thousands of Cubans have received education in the Soviet Union. Thousands and thousands of Soviet people, civilian and military specialists, have worked and are working on our soil. Soviet and Cuban scientists are working together on many problems to promote the development of the national economy.

On 31 October 1984, a long-term program of exceptional importance to us was signed in Havana for the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Cuba for the period up to the year 2000.

The breadth of our ties with the Soviet Union was strikingly manifested recently when our people celebrated, as their finest festival, the 40th anniversary of the victory over German fascism and Japanese militarism, which demonstrated the patriotic and internationalist spirit of the peoples of the Soviet Union, who bore the brunt of the war.

We compare tasks set by the party, the speaker went on, with the CPSU's activity under the leadership of the Central Committee, headed by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, which is aimed at economic development and the strengthening of discipline, at the rational utilization of resources and the quest for new solutions for improving labor productivity and efficiency. The purpose of this activity is to realize as fully as possible the potential advantages of socialism. We express the deepest love, fraternity and sympathy for the people, government, and Armed Forces of the Soviet Union. We salute the glorious CPSU.

After the rally there was a ceremony at the USSR Embassy in Cuba to present jubilee "40th Anniversary of Victory in the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War" medals to Cuban party and state leaders and military commanders. M.S. Solomentsev presented medals to Comrades F. Castro and R. Castro and to Politburo members and candidate members and secretaries of the PCC Central Committee. Jose Ramon Machado Ventura, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee, expressed sincere gratitude to the Soviet Government for the important award and said that the Cuban people will continue to strengthen fraternal friendship with the great Soviet people.

LAVRENTYEV ON SUAZO, DUARTE VISITS TO U.S.

LD221223 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 22 May 85

[Text] Honduran President Suazo Cordova and Salvadoran President Napoleon Duarte are visiting the United States. Vyacheslav Lavrentyev comments on this report:

Both visitors are basic defenders of U.S. interests in Central America. Both Suazo and Duarte completely support the aggressive actions of the Reagan administration against Nicaragaua. Further, Honduras has allowed use of its territory for U.S. military bases. The country has virtually been turned into a proving-ground for aggression being prepared against the Nicaraguan revolution. Bands of counterrevolutionaries and mercenaries also find refuge on Honduran soil after they have carried out terrorist sorties in Nicaraguan territory.

El Salvador, which has no land border with Nicaragua, plays up to Washington in that it blocks the efforts of the Contadora Group for achieving peace in the region. Both rulers are bending over backwards to oblige their American patron and to get even more generous gifts from him. It is known that financial aid from the United States acts as a powerful factor influencing the shaping of policy of many dependent states. This applies first and foremost to Honduras and El Salvador, who, together with two other Central American countries -- Guatemala and Costa Rica -- receive more than half the aid granted by Washington to the entire Latin American continent. And, at the same time, if the policy of any state goes against U.S. interests, that country, Nicaragua for example, is put on the blacklist by the U.S. Administration with all the consequences that entails.

This year Washington has promised Honduras $188 million, and El Salvador even more, $557 million. The figures are impressive. However, not every action is a blessing, because only 15 percent of these sums will go toward development. The remaining 85 percent will be spent on war and on maintaining the army. In El Salvador, for example, over the last 4 years the Armed Forces have increased four-fold. I have intentionally dwelled on the financial side of U.S. relations with their Central American puppets. However, these puppets have tried, trading the sovereignty of their countries to solve economic problems at the expense of the generosity of Washington, the entire history of Latin America shows that no one has yet managed to achieve this, since the largest imperialist powers primarly think about their own interests, which do not always coincide with the interests of even their allies.

LITHUANIAN PLENUM NOTES SUCCESSES, SHORTCOMINGS

PM221509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 85 Second Edition p 2

[Undated report by correspondent D. Shnyukas report under the general heading "New Tasks Lie Ahead: The Party Committees Discuss Measures To Fulfill the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum": "Lithuania"]

[Text] P.P. Grishkyavichus, first secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, who delivered the report, and the speakers who addressed the plenum noted that the republic's communists and all the working people greeted with great satisfaction and an upsurge in labor and political activeness the news of the convocation of the 27th CPSU Congress. Measures to greet it in a fitting manner are now being elaborated in all Lithuania's party organizations and labor collectives. Every opportunity exists, it was stated at the plenum, to fulfill the 5-year targets for increasing production and labor productivity in October, to produce consumer goods worth R140 million in addition to the annual plan, and to fulfill 5-year plans for the sale of most agricultural products ahead of schedule. In order to achieve this, however, much work will have to be done.

On the whole the republic's industry fulfilled the plans for the first 4 months of this year, but 24 collectives failed to cope with commitments for contract deliveries. Serious complaints were made against the leaders and communists of the Litrybprom, Zapremrybflot, and Azot associations, which fell behind.

Priority attention must be devoted to transferring the economy onto a intensification footing. Every opportunity exists for this, the plenum participants stressed. In the last 4 years one-third of fixed production capital has been renewed. A comprehensive 20-year program for scientific and technical progress has been elaborated in the republic. True, it is being fulfilled only sluggishly and is not yet yielding the necessary results. In the first 4 years of the 5-year plan expenditure on releasing one worker in industry almost doubled, while the savings for each ruble of this expenditure were halved. The leaders of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of Rural Construction, the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, and others were criticized for insufficient attention to the introduction of the achievements of science and technology.

The need was indicated for a revision of the existing system of organization of consumer goods production and for a stepping up of the role and responsibility of the republic's Gosplan in coordinating the work of individual ministries and departments in this sphere.

In 4 years the republic has saved 89,000 metric tons of rolled ferrous metals, 100,000 tons of cement, 440,000 tons of standard fuel, and 1.36 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity. Notable results, but they could be considerably better if all the collectives fulfilled their socialist pledges for savings and thrift. It was said with concern that many instances of shortages, squandering of public property, and embezzlement and waste of valuable materials are still encountered.

The participants in the plenum devoted great attention to the state of affairs in capital construction. Although the construction workers' work was assessed positively in the main (it is expected that the capital investments limit set for the 5-year plan will be fully assimilated and the planned volume of construction and installation work will be carried out), not everything is as it should be as regards plan discipline. The Ministry of Construction is still in debt as regards the construction of facilities for motor transport, science, municipal services, and culture.

The construction of the Kayshyadoris storage power station is flagrantly behind. The schedules for the completion of the modernization of the Neris agricultural machines plant, the Vayras bicycle and motor cycle plant, and others are being disrupted.

During the 5-year plan period the Lithuanian agricultural workers have taken a step forward. Last year grain crops yielded an average of 28 quintals, while 191 quintals of meat and 807 quintals of milk were obtained per 100 hectares of agricultural land, but even here not all the potential is being used. The return on each hectare should be increased and the output of produce from the fields and livestock units should go up.

The plenum devoted great attention to questions of the party organizations' organizational and political work. It was noted that many ideological institutions in the republic have stepped up their work to strengthen discipline, restructure various elements of the political education system, and step up counterpropaganda. It was stressed that questions of reducing losses of work time and combating drunkenness and alcoholism remain pressing. Leaders of collectives must be called more strictly to account and their personal responsibility stepped up for the state of discipline and the moral and psychological climate among the working people.

The view was expressed with concern that the task of increasing efficiency and overcoming the bureaucratic work style is not going as rapidly as required. The coordination of monitoring work at all levels has not yet been properly organized, with the result that at certain enterprises one inspector is succeeded by another without any visible improvements following their visits.

A decision was adopted to convene the next, 19th Lithuanian Communist Party Congress on 24 January 1986.

LATVIAN PLENUM NOTES PROBLEMS, IDEOLOGICAL WORK

PM221545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 2

[Undated report by correspondent O. Meshkov on Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum under general heading: "Practical Approach"]

[Text] The report delivered by B.K. Pugo, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, and the speeches at the plenum noted that the republic's workers have achieved definite successes in various sectors of the national economy. The targets for the first 4 years of the 5-year plan have been overfulfilled for the growth of the national income, production output, and labor productivity growth in industry. The quality of articles has improved. The results of work this year are also promising. Thus, in the first quarter output worth over R60 million was sold over and above the plan targets. The sale of stockraising output is proceeding successfully.

However, the plenum stated, the end results could be better and for that it is essential not to rest on our laurels but to persistently eliminate shortcomings and blunders. For instance, take contract and planning discipline. At first glance matters here look not at all bad. In the first quarter the plan for the sale of output taking into account deliveries commitments was fulfilled 99.5 percent, but at the same time a whole series of enterprises failed to fulfill their contracts. There is a particularly large number of these collectives in the ministries of the construction materials industry and the wood processing industry.

Some leaders, instead of creative, strenuous work, continue to resort to plan rectification. The plenum cited the following instance.

Since the first quarter of this year the republican Ministries of Light Industry and the Food Industry, the "Rizhskiy Elektromashinnostroitelnyy Zavod" and "Radiotekhnika" production associations and other enterprises reduced their annual output sales plans by R45 million.

The plenum participants said that this situation can only be explained by the irresponsibility and individual ministry and department workers and enterprise and organization leaders. The party committees must enhance their exactingness toward Communists for the matter in hand, analyze each case of the nonfulfillment of the plan, and take effective measures to use internal reserves.

Recently, the speakers noted, the party organizations' attention toward the acceleration of scientific-technical progress has been stepped up. However, so far no fundamental breakthrough has been successfully achieved. The percentage of worn-out equipment is high at enterprises of the construction industry and light and food industries. Obsolete equipment is being replaced only slowly. Almost every fourth enterprise in the republic failed to fulfill the target for reducing the proportion of manual labor last year. An urgent demand was made from the plenum rostrum: Enterprises and organizations must elaborate additional measures to introduce sophisticated manufacturing processes and means of automation and mechanization and flexible automated systems.

It was stated with alarm that many party organizations pay little attention to the consolidation of discipline and order and tolerate instances of slovenliness and absenteeism. For instance, in 1984 in the labor collectives of industry, construction, sovkhozes, and motor transport organizations nonproductive losses were equal to a week's absence from work of several thousand people. The speakers suggested viewing the economic leaders' inability to ensure good discipline as making them unsuited to their official posts. It is essential to make fuller use of the experience of leading enteprises like the V.I. Lenin "VEF" association. Here one-fourth of the entire increase in output was obtained thanks to the strict observance of labor discipline and order and the certification of work places.

The Communists and all party organizations must display special concern for output quality, the plenum stated. Although the proportion of output of the top category of quality in the volume of goods subject to certification is 57 percent, serious blunders are also still encountered. Thus, the Riga car building plant, which is led by A. Zinchenko, allowed major design and manufacturing deficiencies in assimilating a new type of electric train. Educational work requires further improvement. Many party committees have not learned to keep sight of everything which influences man's ideological and moral countenance and determines his spiritual and life aims. That is why lectures and reports, political information sessions and talks, and classes within the system of political and economic education are frequently verbose and abstract and fail to achieve their purpose. The ideological aktiv must make a better study of life in all its multiplicity and amend its work promptly.

The plenum decided to convene the next, 24th Latvian Communist Party Congress 24 January 1986.

KIRGIZ PLENUM STRESSES MORE PARTY WORK

PM221317 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 2

[Undated report by correspondent V. Shirokov from the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee Plenum under the general heading: "Practical Approach"]

[Text] Social production in the republic is developing dynamically and improving in efficiency.

The 5-year plan targets are being successfully fulfilled as regards all the main indicators. In the last 4 years the national income has increase by more than 20 percent. In that period industry has produced output worth R508 million in excess of the 5-year plan targets. Workers in the agro-industrial complex are also working intensively. They have sold to the state a variety of products worth R75 million in excess of the plan. Targets for the first quarter of this year for meat, eggs, and milk purchases have been overfulfilled.

"But, assessing what has been achieved from the vantage point of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee April Plenum," the keynote speaker T.U. Usubaliyev, first secretary of the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee, said, "we can clearly see both our shortcomings and the unutilized potential."

Suffice it to say, for example, that in the first 4 months of this year 37 enterprises failed to fulfill the plan for the sale of industrial output and 75 enterprises failed to fulfill the plan for deliveries. Some 67 collectives did not reach the planned level of labor productivity growth.

The plenum stressed that whoever was incapable of organizing work and whoever did not back words with concrete deeds must be made accountable to the party and state irrespective of post and services.

Last year the Kirgiz Communist Party Central Committee Bureau examined the question of instances of unsubstantiated amendments of the plan. Leaders who do not observe state and plan discipline were assessed in a pointed and principled manner. The situation has improved somewhat, and yet there are still amendments. In the first quarter the plan was reduced for 10 enterprises of the Ministry of Light Industry, 6 enterprises of the Ministry of Local Industry, and 5 enterprises of the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry.

A considerable amount is being done in the republic to accelerate scientific and technical progress. At machine-building enterprises alone, dozens of shops and sectors have been comprehensively mechanized and automated and around 2,000 of the latest lines, installations and units and over 300 robots, manipulators, and machine tools with digital program control have been introduced since the start of the 5-year plan, but at the same time, many leaders prefer to live and work in the old way. In the first quarter the plans for the development of science and technology failed to be fulfilled at enterprises of the Ministries of the Construction Materials Industry, the Meat and Dairy Industry, and Motor Transport and Highways. The proportion of manual labor at many plants and factories is high.

The plenum noted that the underlying cause of this situation is that party organizations monitor only poorly the fulfillment of programs for scientific and technical progress and labor productivity growth.

It was stated from the plenum platform that order must be brought into the use of equipment, raw materials, fuel, and semimanufactures. Party organizations must resolutely halt the attempts of those leaders who, for parochial or narrow departmental interests, strive to obtain more machines tools and machinery but fail to use them to full capacity. Frequently modern equipment sits in depots like a dead weight. As of 1 April this year equipment worth more than R46 million had accumulated in the republic. Moreover it is frequently the case that the latest equipment rusts away while in the shops obsolete machine tools are in operation. At enterprises of the Ministry of Consumer Services, for example, there are more than 220 units of uninstalled equipment. The proportion of obsolete and worn out units and devices in footwear workshops is 30 percent, while in sewing workshops and in woodworking workshops it is 23 percent and 26 percent respectively.

Many low-quality goods are produced. By the end of last year there were stockpiles in the depots of goods not in demand -- fabrics worth R15 million from the Kirgiz Worsted Cloth Combine, fabrics worth 6 million from the Osh Silk Combine, and goods worth R400,000 from the "1 May" Dewing Association.

In the opinion of the plenum participants, all sectors of the republic's agro-industrial complex must shift onto the path of intensive development. The first steps in this direction have already been taken. Today, more than 200,000 hectares of grain, vegetable, and other crops have been sown by intensive methods in the republic, but this is of course too few. All areas must be cultivated by progressive methods. The republic'c field cultivators are faced with the task of creating an 18-month supply of coarse and succulent feed.

The speakers paid great attention to an analysis of ideological work. Committees which assess it by the number of measures and sessions and not by the labor and political activeness of the masses were sharply criticized. For example, the reports and information documents of the Przhevalsk party gorkom cite impressive figures on the number of lectures, classes, and seminars, but these have little influence on the real state of affairs. A check showed that much absenteeism, many embezzlements, and many drinking bouts at workplaces occur in the city's enterprises.

It was pointed out by the speakers that Communists must analyze in depth at the upcoming report and election meetings questions of the development of the economy, intensification of production, the introduction of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, and the strengthening of organization and order. Special concern must be displayed for the selection of primary organization secretaries. The plenum decreed that party members report to comrades on the kind of labor deeds with which they are greeting the 27th CPSU Congress.

The plenum participants welcomed with great approval the measures of the party and government to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism. The struggle against them must be waged by everybody, by the well-coordinated efforts of party and public organizations and state and ecnomic organs. Every communist must uphold a sober way of life by personal example. An atmosphere of intolerance and exactingness must be created around drunkards.

The plenum decided to convene the next, the 18th Kirgiz Communist Party Congress 23 January 1986.

TAJIK PLENUM DISCUSSES PRODUCTIVITY LAGS

PM221145 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 1985 First Edition p 2

[Undated report by correspondent O. Latifi on Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Plenum under the general headline "Practical Approach"]

[Text] In the elapsed years of the 5-year plan the republic has made considerable progress along all avenues of economic and cultural building. Its production, scientific, and technical potential has increased, the pace of intensification of the economy has accelerated, and production efficiency has increased. Qualitative changes have occurred in the social sphere and working people's material well-being has perceptibly improved.

At the same time, said keynote speaker R. Nabiyev, first secretary of the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee, and the participants in the debates, there are serious shortcomings and errors in the development of the economy.

The rate of increase of industrial and agricultural production has been allowed to lag considerably behind that projected for the 5-year plan. The targets for labor productivity growth, capital construction, volume of retail trade turnover, and sale of consumer services are not being met.

Why? The plenum participants discussed in detail the reasons for this. One of them is that many party, soviet, and economic leaders failed to display due persistence in improving the economic mechanism and failed to ensure that everybody works conscientiously and fully in his own job. In this connection the following ministers were severely criticized: I. Kurbanov, minister of the fruit and vegetable industry; and V. Medvedev, minister of the construction materials industry.

Some leaders try to substitute paper-pushing for action and replace active organizational work with all sorts of meetings. Thus, the speakers pointed out that several decisions had been taken on questions of capital construction, but things, as the saying goes, have not budged an inch. Last year, only 30 out of 40 installations were commissioned. Even today plans are not being met at construction projects nearing completion belonging to the "Tajikgidroenergostroy" (manager, S. Niyazov); the Glavtajikvodstroy (chief, I. Kim); the Construction Ministry (minister, E. Mikirtychev); and the Ministry of Rural Construction (minister, V. Ablogin).

Violations of labor discipline and poor labor organization have a perceptible effect on the end results of work. For example, losses of work time mean that every week in the republic's industry and construction some hundreds of people are not actually working. This is what a recent investigation showed. At the Dushanbe Sewing Production Association named for the 50th Anniversary of the USSR, 79 people were late for the start of the shift. That is 7 percent of the total work force. At the silk combine 13 people went off on personal business without even working for an hour. On the day of the investigation 25 machine tools stood idle in the weaving shop. Fourteen workers from the Planning Estimates Bureau of the Procurements Ministry could not get to their work stations for 2 hours because their chief, F. Nasyrov, was "delayed," and he carries the keys to the premises on his person...

In discussing the development of the economy, the plenum participants drew attention primarily to the retooling of all sectors of the national economy on the basis of modern scientific and technical achievements. The proportion of obsolete equipment is still high at many enterprises. The republic's Gosplan and Gossnab must take better account of enterprise needs and display persistence in implementing the outlined programs. Party organizations must show greater concern for the effective utilization of the latest equipment and scientific recommendations and for the precise coordination of sceintific research work.

Those who spoke at the plenum analyzed questions connected with the fulfillment of the Food Program. It was noted that the increase in the output of agricultural products in the republic is significantly behind the population's rate of increase. The agro-industrial complex must be developed more rapidly. The plenum participants criticized the Tajik Communist Party Central Committee Agricultural and Food Industry Section and the republic Council of Ministers Commission on Questions of the Agro-Industrial Complex for the low level of assistance given to laggard farms, the lack of exactingness toward their leaders and specialists, and poor monitoring of the fulfillment of adopted decisions.

Judging by the progress of this year's spring field work, the plenum stated, many leaders frequently display totally unfounded complacency, lack of organization, and absence of control. Such instances were revealed in Kurgan-Tyuba, Kulyab, and Leninabad Oblasts. It is no accident that the returns from funds invested in agriculture remain low, labor productivity is declining, and qualitative indicators are deteriorating.

The plenum participants spoke of the need strictly to observe the principle of social justice in distributing material and spiritual wealth and to step up the influence of these factors on the development of the economy and the improvement of its efficiency. Wherever party organizations lose sight of these questions, manifestations of arrogance, protectionism, and abuse of official position are frequent. The following example was cited. The Tajik section of the "Gidromontazh" Trust was given a bonus of R7,895 for the results of last year's 4th quarter. The section chief, B. Cheboksarov, distributed this sum arbitrarily on his own orders, and many workers received a bonus of no more than R5.

The plenum also drew attention to shortcomings in the work of party, soviet, and law enforcement organs to strengthen socialist legality and law and order. Those who spoke approved the measures outlined by the CPSU Central Committee to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism. It was stated that all Communists must join in this work.

The plenum decided to convene the scheduled 20th Congress of the Tajik Communist Party 24 January 1986.

OBITUARY OF AEROENGINE DESIGNER A.A. MIKULIN

PM201827 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 85 Second Edition p 6

[Academician A.A. Mikulin Obituary]

[Excerpts] Academician Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Mikulin, major specialist in the aeroengine construction sphere, member of the CPSU, Hero of Socialist Labor, and winner of USSR state prizes, died on 13 May 1985 in his 91st year.

Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Mikulin was an outstanding designer and founder of Soviet aeroengine construction. The engines developed under his direction have been used in a wide variety of military and civil aircraft.

G.A. Aliyev, V.I. Vorotnikov, V.V. Grishin, Ye.K. Ligachev, G.V. Romanov, N.I. Ryzhkov, M.V. Zimyanin, G.I. Marchuk, L.V. Smirnov, A.P. Aleksandrov, V.A. Medvedev, I.F. Dmitriyev, I.S. Silayev, B.P. Bugayev, A.N. Yefimov, V.A. Grigoryev, V.V. Kozlov, V.A. Kotelnikov, Ye.P. Velikhov, V.A. Koptyug, A.A. Logunov, Yu.A. Ovchinnikov, P.N. Fedoseyev, K.V. Frolov, A.L. Yanshin, G.K. Skryabin, V.A. Kirillin, K.S. Demirchyan, L.A. Melentyev, M.A. Styrikovich, A.Ye. Sheyndlin, R.A. Belyakov, A.A. Tupolev, and O.N. Favarskiy

ALIYEV, OTHERS SIGN HISTORIAN'S OBITUARY

PM221318 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 85 First Edition p 6

[Obituary of Academician Militsa Vasilyevna Nechkina]

[Excerpts] Militsa Vasilyevna Nechkina, USSR State Prize winner, full member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, full member of the USSR Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, and eminent scientist in the sphere of the fatherland's history, died 16 May 1985 in their 85th year after a protracted illness.

G.A. Aliyev, V.V. Grishin, Ye.K. Ligachev, B.N. Ponomarev, M.V. Zimyanin, A.P. Aleksandrov, V.A. Medvedev, V.P. Yelyutin, S.G. Shcherbakov, A.A. Logunov, P.N. Fedoseyev, G.K. Skryabin, R.G. Yanovskiy, M.I. Kondakov, S.L. Tikhivinskiy, Yu.V. Bromley, V.A. Vinogradov, N.M. Druzhinin, M.P. Kim, I.I. Milits, A.L. Narochnitskiy, B.B. Piotrovskiy, B.A. Rybakov, A.M. Samsonov, and S.S. Khromov.

KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE HOLDS PLENUM 15 MAY

PM161330 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 16 May 85 p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on the 10th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The 10th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum, which discussed the following questions, was held in Moscow 15 May 1985:

1. On the results of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the tasks of Komsomol organizations to fittingly welcome the 27th CPSU Congress.

2. On progress in preparations for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow.

3. On the activity of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat since the Ninth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum.

4. Organizational questions.

A report "On the Results of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the Tasks of Komsomol Organizations To Fittingly Welcome the 27th CPSU Congress" was read by V. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee.

The following took part in the discussion of the report: V. Mironenko, first secretary of the Ukrainian Komsomol Central Committee; P. Ratnikov, fitter at Sverdlovsk's Uralskiy heavy machine-building plant named for S. Ordzhonikidze; B. Allamuradov, first secretary of the Uzbek Komsomol Central Committee; A. Chaplynskikh, machine operator from the Kirov Kolkhoz in Krasnodar Kray's Leningradskiy Rayon; S. Smirnov, first secretary of the Moscow Komsomol Gorkom; V.G. Chirskov, USSR minister of construction of petroleum and gas industry enterprises; V. Pronin, assembly worker at Rostov Oblast's "Volgodonskenergostroy" Trust; M. Salayev, first secretary of the Leningrad Komsomol Gorkom; A. Kholdblom, master of machine milking from Vykhma Kolkhoz in the Estonian SSR's Vilyandiskiy Rayon; A. Topuzyan, first secretary of the Armenian Komsomol Central Committee; Sh. Sultanov, first secretary of the Tajik Komsomol Central Committee; V. Markov, first secretary of the Kemerovo Komsomol Obkom; G. Glushkova, sewing machine operator at the Kalmyk Clothing Production Association; A. Akimov, first secretary of the Yakutsk Komsomol Obkom; L. Naletskaya, first secretary of the Minsk Belorussian Komsomol Obkom; V. Demin, assistant to the chief of the Navy Political Directorate for Komsomol Matters; M. Tolkayeva, student at the Tomsk Medical Institute; and O. Poptsov, chief editor of the Komsomol Central Committee journal SELSKAYA MOLODEZH.

It was noted at the Komsomol Central Committee Plenum that all Komsomol organizations are adopting for strict guidance and execution the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the propositions and conclusions contained in the report by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and perceive them as a combat action program for the mobilization of young people to fittingly welcome the 27th CPSU Congress. Komsomol members and young men and women are fully resolved to augment their contribution to the struggle waged by the entire people to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development, ensure the intensification and scientific and technical renovation of production, reorganize management and planning, and enhance organization, discipline, and order.

Komsomol committees are instructed to help young people become profoundly aware of the vital importance of the tasks planned by the party and of the constantly growing dependence of their implementation on the creativity, initiative, and responsibility of each working person.

It is necessary to widely disseminate the socialist competition in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress and for the right to sign the Lenin Komsomol report to the party congress. The implementation of the prescribed tasks requires an increase in the combat capability of Komsomol organizations, the development of the creative activeness of Komsomol members, and the resolute elimination of shortcomings in Komsomol committees' organizational and educational work.

The plenum heard a report by Komsomol Central Committee Secretary V. Fedosov on progress in preparations for the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students and a report by Komsomol Central Committee Secretary A. Zhuganov on the activity of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat since the Ninth Komsomol Central Committee Plenum.

The plenum examined organizational questions.

In connection with Yu. Dergausov's election as first secretary of the Novocherkassk CPSU Gorkom, Rostov Oblast, the plenum relieved him of his duties as secretary and member of the Bureau of the Komsomol Central Committee. V. Shaplyko, previously second secretary of the Gomel Belorussian Communist Party Obkom, was elected secretary and member of the Bureau of the Komsomol Central Committee.

D. Ostroushko, chief of the Komsomol Central Committee Komsomol Organs Department, was elected member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau.

In connection with V. Matviyenko's election as first secretary of Leningrad's Krasnogvardeyskiy CPSU Raykom, the plenum relieved him of his duties as member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau. M. Salayev, first secretary of the Leningrad Komsomol Obkom, was elected member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau.

In connection with V. Yegorov's appointment as dean of the A.M. Gorkiy Institute of Literature, the plenum relieved him of his duties as candidate member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau. N. Paltsev, chief of the Komsomol Central Committee Propaganda and Agitation Department, was elected candidate member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau.

In connection with N. Masay's appointment as deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers, the plenum relieved her of her duties as candidate member of the Komsomol Central Committee Bureau.

B.N. Yeltsin, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Construction Department; A.I. Volskiy, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Machine-Building Department; V.G. Volchikhin, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department; responsible workers from the CPSU Central Committee, ministries, and departments; as well as first secretaries of union republic Komsomol central committees, Komsomol kraykoms and obkoms, and assistants to chiefs of political directorates and political departments of military and border districts, fleets, and groups of forces for Komsomol work who are not members of the Komsomol's central elected organs, and press, television, and radio workers took part in the work of the 10th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum.

Mishin Reads Report

PM170916 [Editorial Report] Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian on 16 May devotes all of page 2 to a 6,000-word "abbreviated version" of the report delivered by V. Mishin, first secretary of the Komsomol Central Committee, at the 10th Komsomol Central Committee Plenum in Moscow on 15 May, published under the headline "A Fitting Welcome to the 27th CPSU Congress!"

In the introduction to the report, Mishin speaks in general terms of the country's successes, recent CPSU Central Committee plenums, Soviet youth's support for the party, and Komsomol organizations' duty to implement prescribed tasks.

Part I of the report deals with preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress, the importance of proper economic management and elimination of existing shortcomings in the economy in general, and specifically the current attitudes of Komsomol members and their duties in various spheres of the national economy. Mishin then goes on:

"II.

"One of the Komsomol's paramount tasks is to further improve the ideological-political education of young men and women, intensify their class tempering, and mold lofty political and spiritual standards and communist morality.

"It was said at the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum that ideological-political education in all its forms must be linked to the utmost with the main task of our day: the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

"Young people's higher standard of education, the fact that they are better informed, their general cultural standards, as well as the exacerbation of the ideological struggle in the international arena make greater demands of both the content of ideological-political work and its organizational forms. The party teaches the Komsomol not to be afraid of seeking and experimenting, adding new content to proven forms of work, and resolutely extirpating obsolete ones.

"The creative quest for new and fruitful forms and methods of political education work must be aimed at ensuring that unity of words and deeds and an exacting and critical spirit determine the style and content of the activity of all Komsomol organizations.

"Guided by the party's demands, Komsomol committees and Komsomol Central Committee sections must take practical measures to ensure that the entire Komsomol propaganda complex functions smoothly and without failures, that ideological-political education in all its forms helps accelerate the country's socioeconomic development.

"We must proceed from the party stipulation that ideological-political work will become a reliable weapon if it is not just informative and agitational, but also constructive.

"This applies directly to the Komsomol press. The Komsomol Central Committee Secretariat recently adopted a resolution on the work of KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, which will celebrate its 60th anniversary in a week's time. The resolution sets specific tasks for stepping up the role of Komsomol publications as collective propaganda workers, agitators, and organizers of young people. All Komsomol journalists must arm themselves with this resolution.

"It is an important task of the Komsomol and Young Pioneer press today to report consistently, exactingly, and with businesslike efficiency the work of primary organizations and Komsomol youth collectives in preparation for the party congress.

"It is a responsible task of Komsomol committees to inculcate in young men and women, starting with Little Octobrists and Young Pioneers, lofty class consciousness, political vigilance, and the skill of being able to evaluate reality from the positions of Marxism-Leninism, which is particularly topical under the conditions of the exacerbation of the ideological struggle.

"We must be more persistent and skillful in conducting work to nurture the ability among young people to differentiate between real and imaginary vaues, not to succumb to the cheap bait of bourgeois fashion and forms of behavior, to tirelessly and pridefully adhere to the norms of the Soviet way of life and our morals.

"Under the conditions of improving developed socialist society, the Komsomol increasingly fully faces the task of implanting lofty moral principles in the consciousness and behavior of young people.

"The young child receives his first lessons in morality from the family. This is why it is so important to have an exacting and propitious microclimate and a respectful and solicitous attitude toward one another within young families. Komsomol committees must devote greater attention to newly married couples and show more concern for providing them with normal everyday living conditions.

"Everything that is best -- for the children! The Komsomol is always guided by this behest of Lenin's. The Komsomol Central Committee has adopted a plan for practical actions which envisages a fundamental improvement in the sponsorship of pupils in children's institutions. In solving the cadres problem, the Komsomol Central Committee, jointly with the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA editorial board and a number of Komsomol committees, organized spot checks in children's homes and boarding schools. It is the task of Komsomol committees not to let this initiative die out or turn into an isolated action.

"Komsomol organizations welcomed the 40th anniversary of victory with stepped up military-patriotic work. The unionwide march by Komsomol members and young people to locations of revolutionary, combat, and labor glory is spreading increasingly widely. The Lenin Komsomol's patriotic action 'Emulating the banners of victory!' was held successfully.

"Unfortunately, however, in all this work we still often come across instances of ostentation and sensationalism. At the level of some primary organizations, at times the work boils down to boring isolated actions far removed from young people's actual interests.

"The Lenin Komsomol recently launched a new action, 'Keep in revolutionary step!', devoted to the 27th CPSU Congress and the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. In the process of this action, Komsomol organizations, Young Pioneer detachments, and each young person will be set Leninist targets. Young men and women will have an opportunity to study the history of Great October and associate more actively with the glorious traditions of revolutionary fighters.

"The present-day international situation demands an improvement in the preparation of young people for service in the Armed Forces and an improvement in military-vocational orientation. Experience shows that the best results are achieved wherever ties have been established with military units and military education establishments. There must be a greater return from young men's military-patriotic associations. The entire predraft period must be subjected to special monitoring, and measures must be considered to boost the operational efficiency of the system for preparing young men for Army service along the entire chain: from the start of studying the elements of military work at schools until the time of the actual draft.

"Komsomol committees must more actively participate in the development of military-technical types of sports and the establishment and functioning of clubs for those who like running, tourism, the sport of orienteering, rhythmic and athletic gymnastics, and other forms of physical culture and sports that are of interest and accessible to young people.

"The Komsomol's responsibility for physical and moral health among young people must be backed by an active struggle against antisocial phenomena, primarily against the social evil of drunkenness. The party and state are taking specific measures to eradicate this phenomenon, which is alien to our way of life. However, success in this work can be achieved only by the efforts of the entire people. Komsomol organizations must become the pioneers of the anti-alcohol movement and must seek and find forms of work with young people that contribute to the total eradication of drunkenness.

"The Komsomol Central Committee demands resolute action to end conciliatory and liberal attitudes toward the abuse of liquor and all kinds of drinking bouts and feasts,

"The healthy, dynamic, and cheerful Soviet young people do not need alcoholic drugs. Zones of sobriety must be established wherever Soviet young people work, study, and relax, and new ceremonies and rituals for young people must be more actively elaborated and introduced. Komsomol cadres and aktiv members must set a personal example of strict adherence to the norms of communist morals. The strictest of exactingness must be displayed toward the state of affairs in the struggle against drunkenness among young people.

"At the same time, the level of neighborhood organizational and educational work must be significantly enhanced. Komsomol Central Committee departments must more actively implement the comprehensive program for work in neighborhoods. The leisure sphere is a most important zone of Komsomol actions, and the practice of specific Komsomol action must be extended fully to this sphere.

"It is necessary to significantly improve the utilization of the existing base for the organization of young people's cultural leisure. Komsomol organizations are called upon to be the pioneers of work in trade union clubs, in palaces of culture, and at stadiums, to work actively against departmentalism, and to develop amateur artistic activities among young people. The Komsomol is responsible for the education of young men and women, and everything that can contribute to this must actively serve the considerable improvement of our work."

In Part III of his report, Mishin deals with specific measures aimed at ensuring that the tasks facing the Komsomol and its organizations at all levels are properly implemented.

PAPERS ISSUE EDITORIALS ON ANTI-ALCOHOL CAMPAIGN

PRAVDA 18 May

PM211052 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Sobriety Is the Norm of Life"]

[Text] The Communist Party has always paid and continues to pay constant attention to shaping the new person and to making fruitful use of the material and spiritual potential for his all-around development. The guaranteed right to work, society's concern for people from birth to extreme old age, broad access to cultural wealth, respect for citizens' dignity and rights, and the steady expansion of working people's participation in management -- all these are permanent values and inalienable features of the socialist way of life. They are a most important source of political stability, social optimism, and confidence in the future, the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum noted.

The work to shape an ideologically convinced, harmoniously developed, and physically healthy individual is conducted in a purposeful and fruitful way. In contemporary conditions, when the creative forces of the socialist system are led increasingly fully revealed, special significance is assumed by the strict observance of the principles of communist morality and the overcoming of harmful remnants, primarily the ugly phenomenon of the consumption of liquor.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution published yesterday "On Measures To Overcome Drunkenness and Alcoholism" points out that the previously outlined measures to combat this socially dangerous evil are not being satisfactorily implemented and that the work is carried out in an ad hoc fashion without the necessary organization and consistency. The efforts of state and economic organs and of party and social organizations are not sufficiently coordinated. Anti-alcohol propaganda is still poorly developed, often avoids acute questions, and is not offensive in nature. By no means all people are aware of the harm done to the health of the present and especially the future generations and of society as a whole by the consumption of liquor. As a result, the problem of drunkenness and alcoholism in the country has become more acute in recent years.

The CPSU Central Committee has demanded that all party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and economic leaders immediately elaborate and implement a package of comprehensively substantiated organizational, administrative-legal, and educational measures aimed at resolutely stepping up and improving the effectiveness of the anti-alcohol struggle. It must be given a genuinely mass, nationwide character, creating in every labor collective an atmosphere of intolerance toward drunkenness and toward any violations of labor discipline and order.

Good results are produced by strict public monitoring of the rigorous application to drunkards of measures such as the deprivation of bonuses, rewards for the results of the year's work, and travel passes to rest homes and sanatoria. It is important here to make full use of the rights granted by the trade unions' charter and the Law on Labor Collectives. The all-union voluntary society to fight for sobriety that is being set up is called on to play an important role in the development of the anti-alcohol movement and to disseminate it at enterprises, in organizations, and at institutions.

It is necessary to resolutely rebuff the deep-rooted untenable views of drunkenness as an inevitable and insuperable phenomenon. The consumption of liquor at work and in public places must be regarded as totally impermissible and such cases must be viewed as amoral, antisocial behavior, with the whole force of the law and public opinion being used against drunkards. Party organizations must toughen up the demands made on party members, primarily on leading workers, and must strictly punish those who are partial to drinking bouts. Leaders of party, soviet, economic, and public organizations who like liquor and who permit drinking bouts must be relieved of their posts, and strict party proceedings -- including even expulsion from the CPSU -- must be instituted against Communists for this.

An important task is to step up and improve anti-alcohol propaganda in every possible way. In the arsenal of party and public organizations everywhere, it must be a reliable means of strengthening labor and production discipline and public order and of improving the life of working people and their families. The Komsomol, enlightenment organs, vocational and technical bodies, and organs of higher and secondary specialized education must view the anti-alcohol education of young people as one of their combat tasks.

Educational efforts must be skillfully bolstered by action. This includes improving the working people's way of life and introducing new traditions and modern customs that exclude the consumption of alcohol. The struggle for a sober way of life is being successfully waged wherever local party and public organizations pay constant attention to the development of a mass sports movement and keep sight of the work of cultural enlightenment establishments and health and sports complexes and camps. The organization of the population's leisure must continue to be improved in every possible way and conditions must be created for the judicious use of free time, especially young people's free time. An improvement reserve is the skillful utilization of the trade unions' material base for the development of cultural-enlightenment and tourist excursion work and amateur creative activities, as well as the encouragement of collective horticulture and truck farming.

CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolutions and USSR and RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees outline specific measures to reduce the production and sale of alcoholic drinks and to increase accountability for violations of the trade rules for wine and liquor and for moonshining. The law enforcement organs have been set the task of eliminating the serious shortcomings in their work to combat drunkenness, resolutely halt violations of the trade rules for liquor, and eradicate moonshining and speculation in alcoholic drinks. They are called on to assist the public in every possible way in reeducating those who are partial to drinking bouts, and to persistently work to prevent drunkenness.

The measures to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism are receiving the wide approval and active support of Soviet people. The implementation of these measures is the affair of each and every person. Sobriety must be the norm of our life.

IZVESTIYA 18 May

PM201415 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 85 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "To Eradicate Drunkenness!"]

[Text] The press has just published documents adopted by the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on a package of measures to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism. The purpose of these measures is the well-being of Soviet man. They serve the cause of strengthening his health, his general moral and social state, and the interests of our whole people.

...Someone hits the bottle. That someone destroys his organism, brings pain and suffering to his family and close friends, prevents the collective from working normally, and inflicts moral and material damage on society.

"Two of my sons are literally being ruined by vodka," kolkhoz member Gennadiy Fedorovich Filatov writes to the editorial office. "One of them is serving a 6-year term in a standard regime colony, the second is about to do the same... And what are we doing, why don't we save young and healthy lads from ruin now, in good time? While they are still healthy...."

The letters are numerous. You read and you become even more firmly convinced: with so many active opponents of drunkenness in our country, we really can fall upon this disgusting vice en masse! And this is actually happening. However, if this is so, why has this social evil not yet been eradicated from our life, why is it so tenacious, why has the problem of drunkenness and alcoholism in the country become even more acute over the last few years?

The answer to these questions is complex and difficult. However, an answer must be given, it is necessary. There are many causes for the unsatisfactory state of affairs. One of the main ones is the fact that the struggle against this socially dangerous evil is still being waged in fits and starts, without the necessary organization or consistency. Certain measures were planned earlier, but they were implemented far from always and everywhere. The efforts of state and economic organs and party and public organizations were inadequately coordinated.

Anti-alcohol propaganda is also poorly organized. It is, of course, difficult to automatically expect any positive results whatsoever from such "propaganda" if in this work we continue to avoid the urgent questions and reduce everything to persuasion and laments, if our words do not acquire an assertive nature, if we are ashamed to tell the truth about the harm of "drink" for the health of present and future generations and for society as a whole, if we accept drunkenness as an inevitable phenomenon, and if screen and stage continue to flaunt "heroes" who enjoy the authors' sympathy and who, at moments of either joy or spiritual confusion, eagerly down yet another glass.

The implementation of the new measures taken by the party and state will do much to bring our society closer to the triumph of sobriety as a norm of life everywhere. As people say, the law is stern but just, it takes into account the opinion of the overwhelming majority of Soviet people who, unanimous in the view that the use of alcohol is intolerable in our society's life, demand that drunkenness, alcoholism, and moonshining be effectively eradicated.

The documents that have been published determine the degree of responsibility for being at work while in an unsober state and consuming alcoholic beverages there, for breaching the rules of trade in such beverages, for moonshining either for commercial purposes or for personal consumption, and for other misdemeanors. In this connection, the question of the moral character of the leader, the Communist, or the Komsomol member has been raised particularly acutely. People will be held most strictly to task for alcoholic addiction and for organizing drinking bouts.

The role of labor collectives, public amateur artistic activity organs, health service institutions, and soviets is being enhanced, and broader powers are being vested in them. Deputies and organs of soviet power are obliged to most resolutely join in this struggle, to strictly monitor the execution of party and government resolutions, and to show constant concern for the Soviet people's daily life and the organization of their sensible leisure.

Sports grounds and swimming pools, movie theaters and culture centers, cafes, libraries, "home" workshops where it is possible to pursue a hobby and make something for the home, children's play "villages," collective gardens and orchards -- there are so many interesting and useful activities pleasing to the soul and the body that can and must be used to counter the gloomy "dens of vice" behind whose squalid doors the miasma of the "demon drink" holds sway!

A particular role in overcoming drunkenness and reeducating those who like their drink has to be played by labor collectives. It is there that everything is in the public eye -- man himself, unseemly behavior by him, and the damage that the drinker inflicts on all others. It is there that the work comrades must speak their firm words: "If you want to be one of us, if you want to be our comrade, don't disgrace the worker's good name!" This must be said with principledness and in all frankness.

It would be incorrect and even dangerous to limit the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism solely to the production framework: the street, the yard, the place of relaxation, the transport system, and -- finally -- the home and the family cannot be left outside the attention of not only the law enforcement organs, but the entire public as well.

Second, servitude; drunkenness brutalizes man and makes an animal of him; a terrible evil: this is how this social disease has been described by the brilliant minds of mankind -- Tolstoy, Dostoyevskiy, Goethe.... Let us recall Lenin's words that socialism and drunkenness are incompatible. This conclusion sounds particularly urgent today.

The new and so resolute measures by the party and the state will no doubt have a favorable effect on the prevailing situation, and each one of us can only be grateful for this.

In conclusion, a letter from another reader, a metal worker by profession. It was received in response to materials published by IZVESTIYA under the rubric "To Be or... to Drink?"

"Some 16 years ago, I drank often and in large quantities. I did not see anything to be afraid of in this. I was no longer able to stop, and deep in my heart I started envying those who did not use alcoholic beverages. Ultimately, however, I forced myself to go on a voluntary course of treatment. So, since 1969 I have not used any alcohol at all. Now I am living a full life, not only enjoying my sobriety myself, but also conducting active propaganda for sobriety at work, among my comrades, and even among people in the street. I am convinced that everyone is capable of doing the same. All that is needed is to display will power and the desire to become a man."

Yes, this personal factor is very important in overcoming drunkenness and alcoholism and in resolving, as the party Central Committee resolution stresses, "a social task of great political importance." The conscience and will of a sensible man, personality, or individual -- it is these that must be the first to exhort: Free yourself, tear yourself away from the grips of the tenacious intoxicant. Do it before it is too late. No one else will do it for you.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 21 May

PM211830 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 85 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Sobriety -- A Norm of Life"]

[Excerpts] The present stage in the development of the Land of the Soviets is a pivotal one. The party and our entire people are focusing their efforts on accelerating socioeconomic progress and achieving a qualitatively new state of society in terms of its economy, system of sociopolitical relations and institutions, and the entire totality of the working and living conditions of millions of Soviet people. In accordance with the large-scale, complex, and responsible creative tasks that are being resolved, the party is stepping up its organizational and political education activity and conducting an active struggle against everything hindering more rapid progress.

Under present-day conditions, the CPSU attaches particular importance to strict observance of the principles of communist morality and to overcoming harmful habits and remnants, and above all, abnormal phenomena such as drunkenness and the abuse of spirits.

The timely and effective measures to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism taken by the party and government have been met with satisfaction both by our country's working people and by Army and Navy servicemen. The Soviet Armed Forces are a highly organized, well ordered, and healthy organism. They successfully resolve complex and responsible tasks to ensure the country's reliable security and vigilantly guard the people's peaceful creative labor and the historic gains of socialism. However, even in the Army and Navy environment there are, unfortunately, certain people who abuse spirits.

The Armed Forces have always conducted an implacable struggle against drunkenness. Now they must make it still more stringent. Drunkenness is an entirely intolerable phenomenon in units and on ships; it is the enemy of combat readiness. Commanders, political, organs, and party and Komsomol organizations are called upon to resolutely, persistently, and consistently eradicate this evil and take strict measures against those who have a predilection for alcohol. The main thing is to ensure that every military collective creates an atmosphere of intolerance toward instances of the use of spirits and uses available opportunities for organizing the personnel's sensible leisure more actively. Correct action is being taken where proper importance is attached to sports events involving the entire personnel and the creation of artistic activity collectives and various types of excursions are organized.

Educating people in a spirit of sobriety and intolerant attitudes toward drunkenness, vividly and convincingly revealing the damage caused to combat readiness by even individual instances of the use of spirits, and actively propagandizing new traditions and modern rituals excluding the use of alcohol are all important avenues for further strengthening discipline and order and increasing combat readiness.

CSA REPORT ON SPRING FIELD WORK CITED

LD220844 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A routine report from the USSR Central Statistical Administration on the progress of sowing has been produced. Spring crops were sown on more than 93 million hectare by 20 May; including cereals and leguminus crops, not counting corn, on an area of 52 million hectare. Mass wheat sowing has begun in the largest granaries in the east of the country. In many areas of Central Asia, in Azerbaijan, in the Astrakhan Oblast and in Moldavia mowing of sown grasses, laying in of this grass for storage, and processing of them into vitamin pellets have begun. From field to farm, the green production-line is gathering speed.

The laying-in of fodder is going on in the Kuban. An area of 42,000 hectare of perennial grasses has been mowed so far.

POLITICAL OBSERVER ON PRIVATE GARDEN PLOTS

LD202141 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 20 May 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast; talk by political observer Anatoliy Ivashchenko]

[Text] Hello, comrades. It is not just on the big fields these days that armies of rural machine operators are laboring from dawn to dusk. Spring work is in full swing in domestic kitchen gardens and orchards. Young and old are digging the ground, planting potatoes, and pruning the branches of trees. Townspeople, too, who have garden plots and allotments, are busy with the same tasks. These plots are not large, but have been taking on truly national importance especially since the May 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. Judge for yourselves. In Moscow Oblast alone, almost 200,000 families of factory and office workers are members of horticultural associations. Also 840,000 families have household plots in the same oblast. More than a million families: altogether 3 or 4 million people. There will now be another million allotments in the country every year. On the CPSU Central Committee's initiative, state enterprises are developing, in a planned way, mass production of sheds [domiki] for amateur gardeners, and also production of gardening tools.

Everything that is grown on these allotments during time off work is intended only for the growers themselves and cannot become a source of profit or a pretext for building dachas, as has been practiced here and there until recently. In those cases where their harvests are good, the horticultural associations give their produce to kindergartens, Pioneers camps, their own cafeterias, rest homes. There is also a practice of selling fruit to procurement organizations.

Naturally, an allotment is established for the years to come: These plots have to be sited in places where they will not be threatened in the future, by, say, new roads or railways, or city developments. As for kitchen gardens, land for them is allocated in many towns at the discretion of the local soviets of people's deputies for one season only, and is offered for the following year in a different place. This is done so that, on the one hand, plots will not lie empty, and, on the other hand, problems will not be created for industrial and housing construction, or for the reconstruction of towns and settlements.

It is perfectly clear that it is impossible to erect any type of construction, or build one's own irrigation canals or roads.

When the grain in the fields starts stretching up towards the sun, the shoots will start showing green in the allotments and kitchen-gardens, and beyong the city boundaries.

COMMISSION DISCUSSES ANTIPOLLUTION EFFORTS

PM211330 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 85 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Concern for Nature"]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources was held 16 May. The question of the work being done by the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry to supply agriculture and forestry with the compounds necessary for biological plant protection was examined. The commission noted that in 1984 the protection of agricultural crops against pests and diseases by biological methods was secured on an area of more than 32 million hectares, including an area of 2.5 million hectares on which bacterial compounds were used. It has become possible to stop using pesticides on this area. At the same time, the volume of production of these compounds and their range and quality are still below the national economy's requirements. Furthermore, work to breed microorganism strains for use in plant protection is not conducted with adequate efficiency.

The commission ordered the main administration of the microbiological industry to take additional measures to meet the needs of agriculture and forestry for microbiological plant protection agents and to improve their quality. Instructions were also given to expand scientific research work in this sphere, and the USSR Ministry of Agriculture and the USSR State Committee for Forestry were instructed to step up their monitoring of the observance of application techniques and the storage conditions of bacterial plant protection agents.

Following a report by the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers, the question was examined of the measures being taken in the republic to prevent environmental pollution when pesticides are being used in the light of USSR Council of Ministers resolutions. Last year the total area of vineyards and 70 percent of the area sown to cotton were treated with plant protection agents using surface equipment, and over the last few years the volume of pesticide treatment of cotton has been reduced by fourfold. At the same time, the commission noted that in a number of Azerbaijan SSR rayons the regulations governing pesticide storage are breached and other shortcomings exist in the organization of pesticide application. The republic's Council of Ministers, and also the USSR Ministry of Agriculture, the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming, and the USSR Ministry of Food Industry have been ordered to take measures to step up their monitoring of pesticide application. Union republic Councils of Ministers and the USSR ministries concerned have been ordered to take measures to introduce in agricultural production the experience of a number of farms which cultivate agricultural crops without pesticide application.

The commission also examined the question of progress in the fulfillment of the USSR Council of Ministers resolution "On Measures To Step Up the Protection of the Baltic Sea Basin From Pollution" by the Lithuanian SSR, the Latvian SSR, and the Estonian SSR. It was noted that over the last 8 years these republics have constructed more than 1,800 purification installations, and that a number of other water conservation measures have been carried out.

The commission ordered the Lithuanian SSR, Latvian SSR, and Estonian SSR Councils of Ministers, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry, the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry, and other ministries and departments whose enterprises are located in the Baltic republics to take measures to completely end the discharge of untreated effluent in the region in question.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA VIEWS ROLE OF AIRBORNE TROOPS

PM221306 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 May 85 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Winged Infantry"]

[Excerpts] The winged infantry... This is what Soviety people lovingly call servicemen of the airborne troops. We are rightly proud that it is Soviet military art that has priority in the theoretical elaboration and practical application of airborne landings and that it was in our country that airborne troops came into being for the first time in the world, surrounded by a halo of adventure and courage.

The complexion of the modern airborne troops is determined by very sophisticated combat hardware, including the combat landing vehicle equipped with efficient armament and possessing reliable armor protection and high cross-country ability and maneuverability. The airborne troops' potential has now expanded, and they have become motorized, highly mobile troops capable of combatting a strong, technically well-equipped enemy.

The wings of the airborne landing force have become still mightier -- powerful Il-76 and An-22 Antey military transport aircraft capable of moving units and subunits with hardware, armament, and support facilities quickly over great distances and at any time of day or night. The combat potential of airborne troop units and subunits has increased considerably thanks to the fact that they have acquired new means for use in making landings -- helicopters, modern antiaircraft missile complexes, antitank guided missiles, and other fire weapons.

The sons and grandsons of front-line soldiers are now in the combat formation of the winged guards. The landing troops of the eighties are men infinitely devoted to the party and the people, with strong ideological tempering, great courage and daring, and high professional training. Like all Soviet servicemen, landing troops are profoundly aware of the complexity of the contemporary international situation, whose nature was revealed in depth at the March and April (1985) plenums of the party's Central Committee. With military successes in service and in combat training they are indefatigably enhancing their vigilance, strengthening combat readiness, and improving their tactical fire training and specialized training. The landing troops have repeatedly demonstrated their skill and their high moral and combat qualities on exercises, including joint exercises of the Warsaw Pact countries' fraternal armies.

There are many units and subunits in the airborne landing troops which secure high achievements in combat training and in competition year after year. The foremost include the Svirskaya Airborne Landing Guards Division and the paratroop guards regiment commanded by Guards Lieutenant Colonel V. Petrov, initiator of competition among the troops. There the training and educational process is organized to a high standard of quality and efficiency, and the pledges in competition under the motto "Our selfless military labor for the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!" are being fulfilled successfully.

There are many other units and subunits in the airborne landing troops where combat training is conducted at a high organizational and methodological level and where personnel organization and cohesion are high. This is eloquently indicated by the results of the winter training period and the results achieved by landing troops during tactical exercises involving combat firing and practical landings. For high combat skill foremost units were recently awarded USSR Defense Ministry pennants for courage and military valor. Every second regiment in the troops now possesses this honorary award.

Service in the winged infantry, which is sung of in songs, is a real forge of courageous and fearless characters.

The landing trooper is inconceivable without courage, physical strength, high combat skill, and deftness. For every fighter of the winged guard without exception is essentially trained for special combat, for combat behind enemy lines. This is the heroic principle of the difficult, honored profession of landing trooper. The service demands of him the utmost bravery, endurance, sound training, and high dependability, on which comrades in arms count.

This happened in February 1980. A group of landing troopers received an order to ensure the safety of a truck column carrying grain to Afghan villages plundered by a gang. The column was suddenly attacked by dushmans on a steep upward slope. They sought to surround and wipe out the servicemen and to destroy the freight. Guards Senior Sergeant A. Mironenko, platoon deputy commander, remained to cover the column's organized departure. When his cartridges ran out, he took up grenades. The dushmans surrounded him, and he had already been injured twice, but the Soviet serviceman, grandson of a front-line soldier, fulfilled his duty to the end. When the enemies' circle closed, a muffled explosion resounded over the firing position. Komsomol member Mironenko had blown himself and the nearby bandits up with his last grenade.

The courage of Guards Sr Sgt Mironenko was marked posthumously with an Order to Lenin and a hero's Gold Star. By order of the USSR Ministry of Defense he was enrolled forever in the rolls of the reconnaissance company of the "N" Paratroop Guards Regiment.

That exploit is one of thousands inscribed as golden lines in the combat annals of the winged infantry. Units and subunits of the airborne troops have accumulated rich experience of work on fostering in personnel communist conviction and selfless devotion to their patriotic and international duty and the military oath. During the active preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress party political work in the troops, as well as throughout the Army and the Navy, is being enriched with interesting new forms of introducing young landing troopers to front-line experience and the traditions of the older generation and educating them with splendid examples of courage, valor, and daring. Commanders, political organs, and party and Komsomol organizations strive actively to ensure that every airborne troop subunit lives as a united friendly family and is a model of soldierly smartness and physical endurance.

Many songs have been composed in honor of the fighters of the winged infantry. One of them contains these words:

"The people call us the winged infantry.

"We bear this name with honor!"

In united combat formation with the servicemen of the other categories of troops the landing troop guardsmen are always ready to fulfill their patriotic and international duty to defend our multinational motherland and socialism's gains

PRAVDA ON NEW CARGO PLANE'S FIRST FLIGHT

PM221143 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 22 May publishes on page 6 a 1,600-word A. Gorokhov dispatch from Kiev describing the maiden test flight of a new Soviet air cargo plane, the Antonov-124. The report, titled "Winged Giant Takes to the Skies," outlines the characters and organizations involved in the plane's design, construction and testing and records the buildup to the weather-delayed first takeoff of the prototype, named "Ruslan."

It supplies a limited amount of information on the aircraft itself: It has an eight-man crew (on this occasion); it is "more than 70 meters long"; it is "capable of carrying more than 100 tons of freight over long distances"; it is powered by four "synchronized" turbofan motors based on the "D-36," which was shown at the Paris air show in 1981; it is comparatively quiet - "We heard no deafening roar... as it started its takeoff run"; the motor "betters similar foreign motors in terms of many parameters"; and "the takeoff run took 23 seconds."

As for the test flight itself the crew is said to have reported a "successful" mission. There was "no sensation of bulk behind you": The plane was "very light" and handled well." They had "no complaints about this array of onboard systems."

MAJ GEN NAZAROV INTRODUCES FILM ON BORDER GUARDS

OW211415 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0540 GMT 21 May 85

[Talk by Major General Vladimir Ivanovich Nazarov, deputy chief of the Political Directorate of KGB border troops of the USSR, introducing the film "Difficult Silence" on life of border guards — videotaped; date and place of talk not given]

[Text] Hello comrades. Our socialist motherland is truly vast. When the sun is just rising in the East, the previous day is at its height in the western regions of the country, but the peaceful constructive labor of the Soviet people, who are implementing the plans of the Leninist party as it moves toward its 27th congress, does not stop for a second in our land.

Also our border, equivalent to one and half equators in length, is also great. Its defense of course is not a simple task, and fairly frequent and truthful accounts on the pages of our press, over radio and television, and in feature and documentary films attest to this.

You are about to acquaint yourselves with a new work of documentary film makers of the Ekran Creative Association, who have created four films about border guards under the common title of "Footsteps on the Border." The film makers strove to convey the entire endless diversity of service on the border. In our view, they managed to do this. From the many facets of daily life on the border and the exotic distinctions of service and life, the scriptwriters -- Comrades Andreyev, Pavlov, and Tur -- producer Osminin, and cameraman Tomashevich focused on and magnified several officers, ensigns, and soldiers on the border and through their stories threw light on the tranquillity, anxiety, and mentality at the border, and the nature of its heros.

In one of the films in the "Do Not Believe the Silence" series, there are scenes that are amazingly emotional. They reflect the first minutes of the Great Patriotic War. Yes, it really was that way. On the Western border, Makar Stepanyan, political commander of a frontier post, holds a section of the state border of our motherland for 4 days with a handful of border guards and leads them into the attack on the 5th day, an attack which during that difficult time becomes a small fragment and prototype of future large-scale offensive operations of our Soviet Army which led to the glorious victory in May 1945.

The hero does not return from the battle, but in the same film we see how the Stepanyan dynasty, loyal to the memory of the deed, continues the heroic traditions of border troops. Not only are images portrayed in "Footsteps on the Border," it is also full of profound and great meaning. After all, the film is not simply about the defense of our frontiers but about the maturing of its defenders and the formation of lofty political qualities among our people in the process of performing service itself.

The sharp exacerbation of the international situation and of the struggle between the two world social systems, which has occurred not through our fault, can be noticed particularly clearly at our control and admission points. There is no end to the tricks our class enemies resort to and to the assortment of things these foreign hawkers carry: contraband, both of material and spiritual nature, hidden gold and diamond jewelry alongside concealed pornographic magazines and postcards, while hostile anti-Soviet homilies are accompanied by various kinds of religious postulates.

Everything is being resorted to with the aim of undermining the moral, traditional and political foundations of socialist society, of Soviet people, and first and foremost of the Border Guards themselves. Under these conditions the border guard must not only possess the corresponding political knowledge but also an enviable psychological steadfastness and a certain immunity in the struggle against the intrigues of the ideological saboteurs.

For friends, the border is the threshold of our large and hospitable house; but for those who attempt to penetrate our country with various kinds of dirty aims and ideological poisons, it is an impregnable frontier. The films that you are to see have no major or common hero, if you will. Yet, at the same time, I want to say that he exists. He is the guardsman of the sacred frontiers of the motherland; he is the courageous border guard.

So, in describing his service, the authors use the words labor and feat more often than others, and this is no coincidence, for indeed the very meaning of our border service lies in these two words. Tireless intense labor to master the skills of border craft ensures the combat readiness of our frontier posts, ships, and control and admission points and the readiness of our people to fulfill their military duty, a readiness for feats. Let us view the first film. [The film "Difficult Silence" follows]

BORDER GUARDS SEIZE ANTI-SOVIET LITERATURE

PM201903 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 85 Second Edition p 4

[Report by Captain Second Rank A. Vinogradov under the rubric "Everyday Life on the Border": "In the Recesses of a Ford"]

[Text] Red Banner Northwest Border District -- The Ford braked at the checkpoint observation area. The car owner produced his documents for the border guards. The foreign citizen's papers were in order. The car apparently did not arouse the border guards' suspicions. Except that the floor ... Inside the car the floor was so solid that you could not insert even a razor blade.

Chief of shift Major N. Popov asked the car owner to open the hatch inside the car, but the foreigner protested.

Senior Lieutenant Yu. Kalashnikov, Private First Class R. Simakov, and Private V. Leontyev looked over the car again attentively. Their suspicions increased. Maj Popov warned the Ford owner that if he did not open the floor, the border guards would do so.

The traveler opened up a cache. Several thousand copies of an anti-Soviet concoction were hidden there.

SOKOLOV, OGARKOV SIGN GENERAL STAFF AIDE OBITUARY

PM201610 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 85 First Edition p 1

[Obituary of Ivan Georgiyevich Nikolayev]

[Excerpts] Colonel General Ivan Georgiyevich Nikolayev, first deputy chief of a USSR Armed Forces General Staff main directorate, has died aged 62 after a long and grave illness.

He devoted all his conscious life to selfless service of the people, the socialist motherland, and the cause of the Communist Party, of which he had been a member since 1944.

I.Q. Nikolayev was born in 1922 in a peasant family in the village of Komzolka in Penza Oblast's Kolyshleyskiy Rayon.

In the postwar years, after graduating from the M.V. Frunze Military Academy and the USSR Armed Forces General Staff Military Academy named for K.Ye. Voroshilov, he served in the Navy main staff and then in leading posts in the general staff.

S.L. Sokolov, S.F. Akhromeyev, V.G. Kulikov, V.I. Petrov, A.A. Yepishev, Ye. F. Ivanovskiy, S.G. Gorshkov, I.N. Shkadov, N.V. Ogarkov, A.I. Sorokin, V.I. Varennikov, A.I. Gribkov, I.A. Gashkov, P.I. Ivashutin, G.A. Morozov, M.A. Gareyev, N.N. Amelko, A.I. Belov, M.M. Kozlov, V.S. Nechayev, D.A. Volkogonov, A.N. Agafonov, N.A. Zotov, A.A. Danilevich, S.A. Dikov, V.P. Shutov, N.F. Chervov, G.A. Burutin, B. Ye. Byzov, G.S. Starodubov, N.K. Bobkov, N.A. Makarenkov, N.V. Storch, Yu. A. Sysoyev, F.G. Bunin

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA EDITORIAL ON WORK WITH LETTERS

PM211342 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 May 85 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Behind a Letter There Is a Person"]

[Text] The preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress and the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War have been marked by high patriotic enthusiasm on the part of Soviet people. The letters being received by party and soviet organs, commanders, political organs, and staffs are striking evidence of this. They display an active position on life, a state approach to the many aspects of troops' and naval forces' life and activity and also concern to eliminate shortcomings.

The letters warmly approve the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the program it outlined for further improving developed socialist society and strengthening the motherland's economic and defense might. Unanimously supporting the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy, Soviet servicemen are voicing their desire to greet the 27th CPSU Congress with new successes in boosting vigilance and combat readiness and strengthening military discipline.

The party has always attached and continues to attach tremendous importance to work with working people's letters. The CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum stressed with new force the need to pay unremitting attention to public opinion and citizens' criticisms, statements, and letters.

An analysis of work with letters shows that, following the party's guidelines, military councils, commanders, political organs, and staffs have started to treat the examination of letters and statements more attentively and to take the necessary measures regarding them more promptly. Greater demands are being made on people to ensure the objectivity of checks and to implement proposals aimed at improving the quality of combat and political training and labor productivity and quality, and strengthening order and organization. It has become the general practice of most commanders and political workers to have personal contact with servicemen and Army and Navy workers and employees on questions that interest them, to receive them at their place of service or work, to visit military units, military training establishments, enterprises, and institutions in response to letters and statements, and to give addresses on the results of checks. This makes it possible to take prompt measures on any particular complaint, proposal or remark.

At the same time the proper sociopolitical significance fails to be attached to work with letters in some places. Some commanders and political organs fail to investigate the questions raised in letters in depth and neither analyze nor use them fully to study in detail the needs, requirements, and sentiments of the personnel and the moral atmosphere in military collectives and to improve their own practical activity. Cases of formalistic replies, red tape, and a superficial and sometimes nonobjective approach to checking statements and instances of violations of the prescribed deadlines for examining these cases still have not been eliminated. There are instances of formalistic reactions to press criticism based on specific shortcomings and of a bureaucratic attitude to people's legitimate requests and complaints on questions that are important to people. Here is an example:

In June 1984 KRASNAYA ZVEZDA received a letter about the unworthy behavior of a commander of a military construction detachment, Major V. Londorev, which was sent to the appropriate political department to check and adopt measures. Colonel V. Kurdov, who carried out the check, thanked the letter writers for the information and reported that Maj Londorev had been punished according to party procedure. He was strictly warned that if he did not change his behavior he would be removed from his post. A similar reply was received by the editorial office. However, in February of this year the editorial office received a letter which made it clear that Col V. Kudrov failed to carry out the check in depth and with due exactingness. Feeling that he was invulnerable, Maj Londorev started to hit back at those who had written to the paper about him. The letter cited instances of abuses committed by him.

In April the editorial office received a reply on the results of the check made in response to this letter. It said that party and disciplinary proceedings are being taken against Maj Londorev for abuse of official position, violation of financial discipline, and rudeness to subordinates. Yet all this was not a recent occurrence, and the violations could have been exposed through the check made in response to the first letter. As we can see, a second appeal to the paper was necessary to straighten everything out.

There are several letters in the editorial office's mail attesting to the callousness and indifference of individual officials. Officers, warrant officers, and ensigns transferred to the reserve sometimes wait months for their personal files that fail to be sent to the military commissariats, despite repeated requests. Some units do not display genuine concern about material and medical provision for servicemen and members of their families, which is convincingly evidenced by letters received by various bodies, nor is everything done to explain the service procedure for various categories of servicemen.

The party teaches cadres to regard letters as a confidential and valuable source of information. They make it possible to see shortcomings and unresolved questions better, to ascertain people's sentiments, and to take measures promptly to eliminate shortcomings. It must be remembered that there is a living person behind each letter and it is an official's duty to treat his needs, requirements, and proposals in an interested and attentive manner. This is one of the manifestations of the party's concern for strengthening links with the masses, developing and strengthening socialist democracy, and guaranteeing the broad utilization by every Soviet person of his constitutional right to take part in resolving questions of society's life and to combat deviations from the norms of our morality.

Every day letters on the most varied questions are received by commanders and chiefs, political organs, and USSR Defense Ministry main and central directorates from servicemen, Army and Navy workers and employees, and war veterans. It is important to study them attentively, take the necessary measures expeditiously on the spot, provide convincing explanations and reasoned replies, and eliminate the underlying causes of the complaint.

In this connection it is necessary to ensure that commanders and chiefs are well aware of normative documents and that they follow strictly the letter and the spirit of Soviet laws. Those who permit bureaucracy and red tape must be called strictly to account by the party. It is toward such an approach to matters that the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum orients people.

The attitude to work with letters must be party-minded. Analyzing periodically the state of this work and improving it means making effective use of an important channel of communication with the masses, actively influencing the state of affairs in the localities, and helping to resolve successfully the tasks of further strengthening the combat readiness of troops and naval forces.